STORM RIDERS 風雲

by Wing Shing Ma

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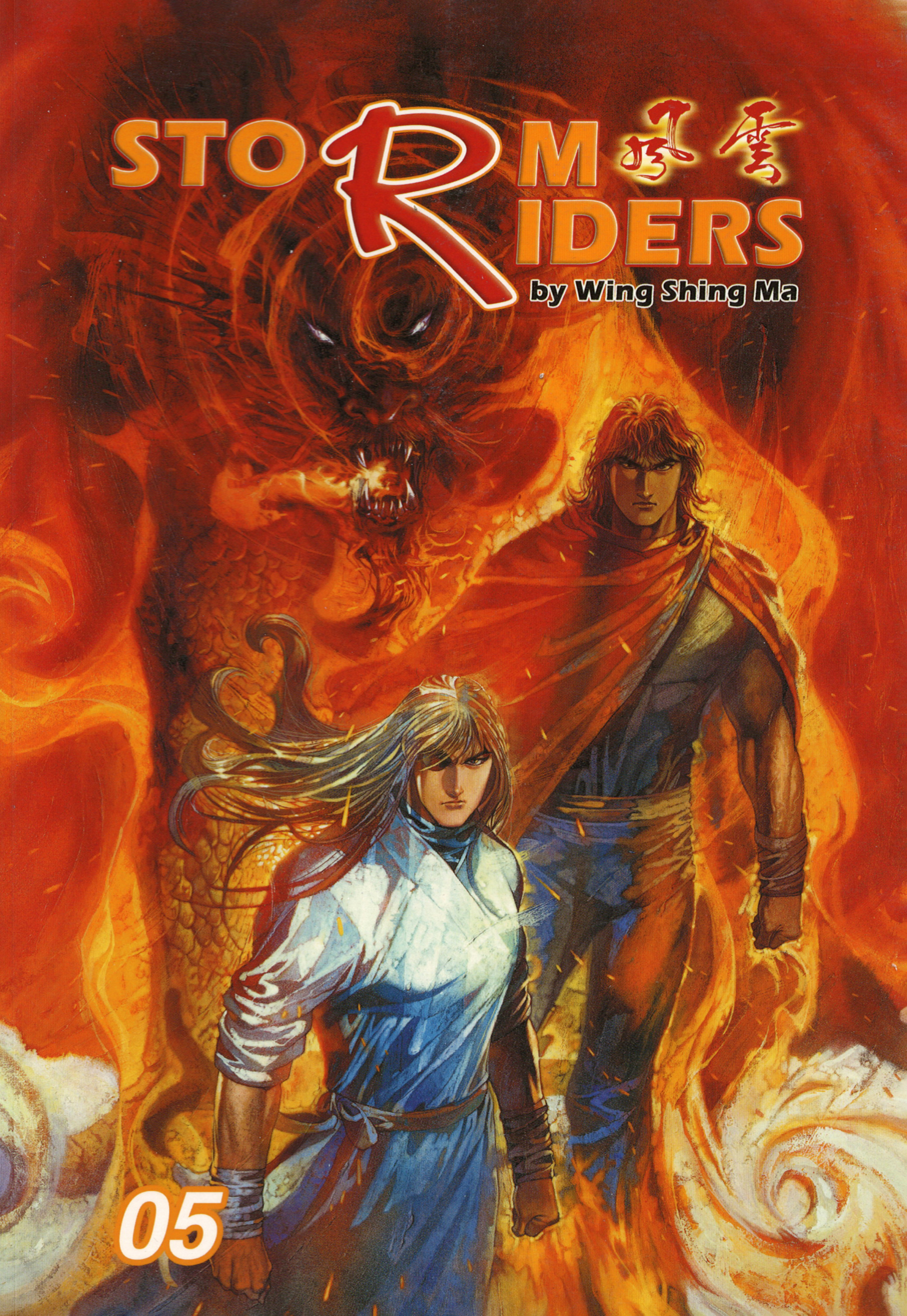
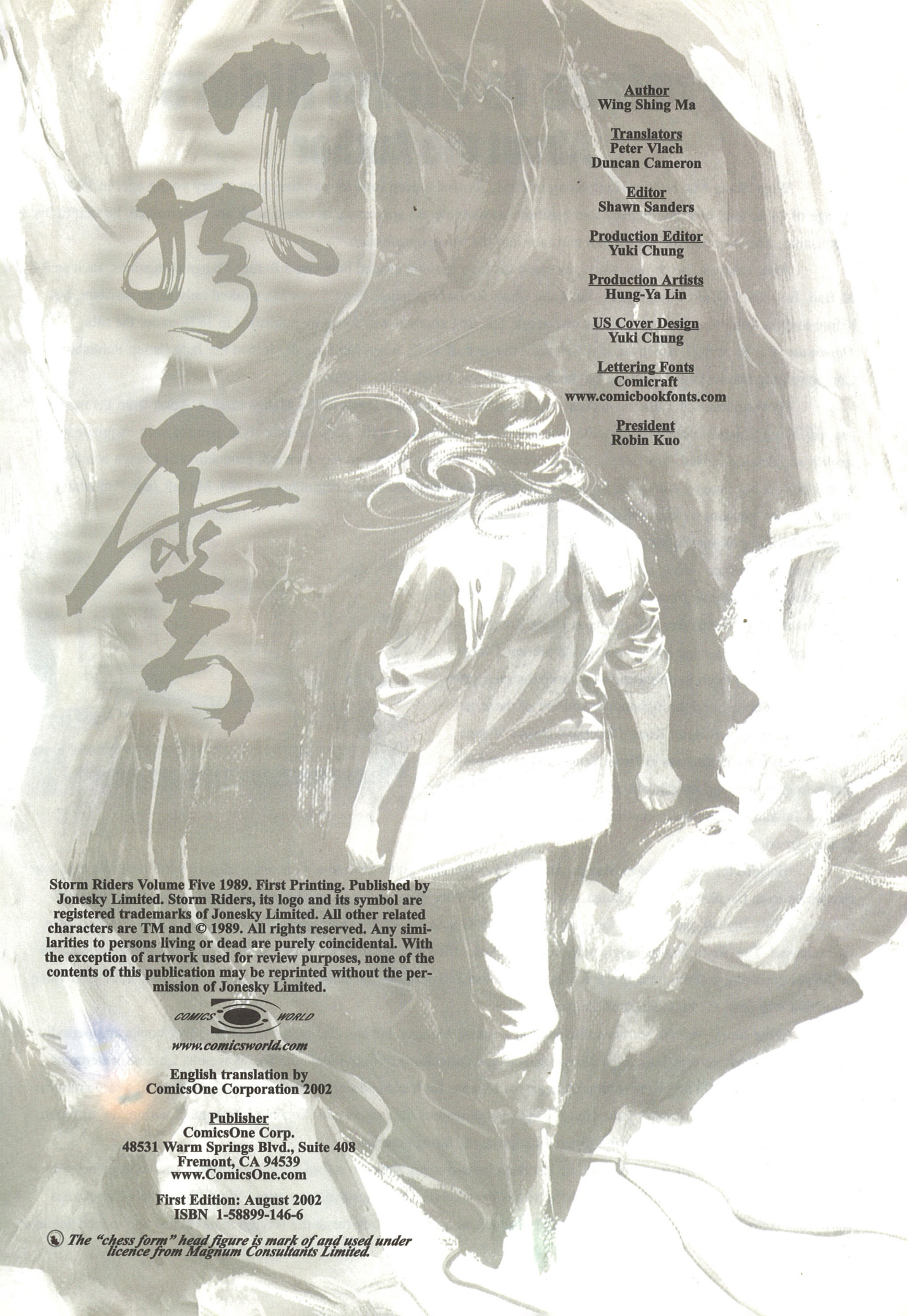


About the Author

Jonesky Limited was established in 1989. On July 1 of that same year, Jonesky Limited founder Mr. Wing Shing Ma started to publish his popular work, Storm Riders. Storm Riders is the first Hong Kong comic to use Kung Fu and movie techniques in a comic production. Storm Riders has struck a chord in the heart of thousands of readers and Mr. Ma's style is loved and respected throughout Asia.



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Preface to Storm Riders

About the Author

Wing Shing Ma, born in Hong Kong in 1961, showed a deep love for painting from a very young age. In 1976, at the age of 14 he read in a newspaper about positions available as an apprentice in comic book art. Determined, he sent in his submission. This step marked his official entrance into the Manga profession.

After entering the comics world, he spent his time moving around between different Manga companies, such as Ru Xi Bao, Jin Manga (Gold Manga) and Xin Lang Chao. In the beginning, Wing Shing Ma worked only as an assistant, but before long he had published some of his own work. His first creation was formally published in 1976 under the title, *Daydream* (Bai Ri Meng). However, it wasn't until the year of 1982, when Ma formally joined the Jade Group Publishing Company Ltd., that he began working on the famous Manga novel, *Chinese Hero.*

By the middle of 1983, he had already leaped into the highest levels of the Manga market. Apart from his market success, Wing Shing Ma had established a new and distinctive Manga style. This realistic style, painted with exquisite brush strokes and detail, allowed for a deeply expressive form of Manga. From that day forward, production of Manga comics would forever be changed due to the impact of Ma's original approach. In the beginning of 1989, Ma left Jade Publishing, and in July of the same year established Jonesky Limited, which began publishing *Storm Riders, Black Panther;* and *Heaven Sword and the Dragon Sabre,* a Manga trilogy, as well as a fourth book, *Punishment from the Heavens.* By August 2000, Ma had released what to this day still stands as Hong Kong's most important and cutting-edge Manga comic. At present, *Storm Riders* has already been in publication for more than ten years. From the beginning, and throughout the entirety of those ten years, it has remained Hong Kong's foremost classic Manga novel. Apart from its success in Hong Kong, it is also a book that is in great demand throughout many countries of the world such as Taiwan, Malaysia, Singapore, Korea, Thailand, Mainland China, America and Canada.

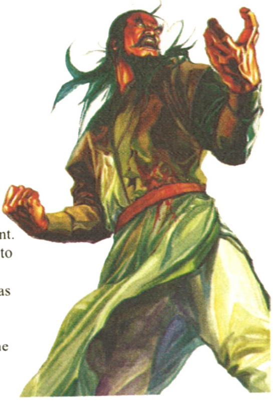
Besides the *Storm Riders* Manga, *Storm Riders* has also given birth to a wide array of peripheral products that bear likenesses from the *Storm Riders* Manga, such as a line of letter openers based on Storm Riders' weapons, T-shirts, wrist watches, action figures, pens, paper fans, etc. Also, in 1998 a *Storm Riders* video game, as well as the *Storm Riders* movie was released. The *Storm Riders* movie achieved great box office success in Hong Kong, with box office sales exceeding 40 million Hong Kong dollars. Also in the works are a *Storm Riders* television series as well as a *Storm Riders* Net-based video game that will push the boundaries of the genre.

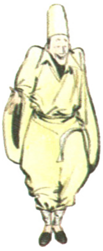
Wing Shing Ma has not been restricted to creating Mangas. He has also published many other books and periodicals, such as Manga novels, hardcover Manga novels and collections of individual artwork, as well as Chinese watercolor paintings. Also, in 1993 he began to import Japanese Mangas for translation into Chinese. His publication of a large number of high quality Japanese Mangas gave Hong Kong Manga readers the opportunity to come into contact with many different types of Manga genres, thus furthering diversification in the Manga market.

Apart from Hong Kong Manga, he has been invited many times to attend Manga exhibitions and conferences in Canada, Taiwan, Singapore and Macau, where he always receives an enthusiastic reception. Wing Shing Ma's success has shown the Hong Kong Manga world that a local product can most certainly reach the foreign marketplace and indeed achieve unprecedented success.

STORM RIDERS 風雲

Relationship Chart

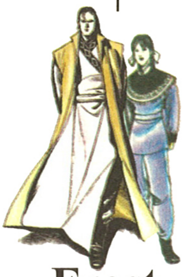




Wen Motley: Conquer's attendant. He discovers Conquer's scheme to divide Cloud and Wind and compiles a series of documents as evidence. To ensure Wen's silence, Conquer sends Frost to kill him and destroy the letters he has collected.
Technique: Flowing Sleeves, Swirling Sleeves, Dancing Sleeves

Conquer: Exceptionally powerful martial artist with plans of controlling the World Fighting Association. He takes on Wind and Cloud as his disciples in order to fulfill his destiny.
Technique: Chi of Triplication Returns to One, Triplication Fingers

Wen Motley — Conquer

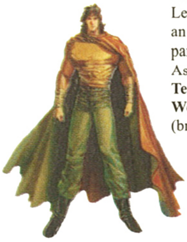


Frost: Long-time disciple of Conquer. Married to Conquer's adopted daughter Kong-Chi. Leader of the Frost Corps: an elite fighting unit which is a part of the World Fighting Association.
Technique: Sky Frost Fist

Kong-Chi

Kong-Chi: Adopted daughter of Conquer and wife of Frost, though her heart lies elsewhere.

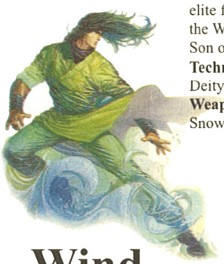
Frost



Cloud: Son of Master Ho and disciple of Conquer. Leader of the Cloud Corps: an elite fighting unit which is part of the World Fighting Association.
Technique: Repelling Palm
Weapon: Ultimate Sword (briefly, Unrivaled Sword)

Cloud

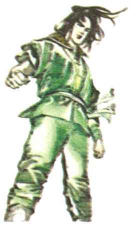
(Bu-Jing-Yun)



Wind: Disciple of Conquer and leader of the Wind Corps: an elite fighting unit which is part of the World Fighting Association. Son of Master Nie.
Techniques: Ice Heart Knack, Deity of Wind Kick
Weapon: Inherits the Snowy Saber

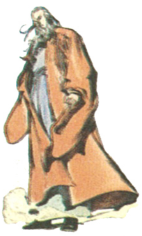
Wind

(Nie-Fong)



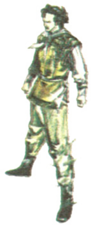
Duan-Lang

Duan-Lang: Son of Master Duan. Rescued from death by Conquer as a child, he was ultimately forced to flee from Conquer for reasons not yet revealed. He teams up with Sword Saint, DuGu Ming, and Conquer's other enemies in order to seek revenge.
Weapon: Inherits the Flame Kylin Sword



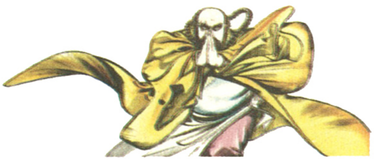
Sword Saint

Sword Saint: DuGu Ming's uncle and a Kung Fu master. He returns from retirement to help DuGu Ming defeat Conquer.
Technique: Sword Skill 21, Sword Skill 22, Sword Skill 23
Weapon: Unrivaled Sword



DuGu Ming

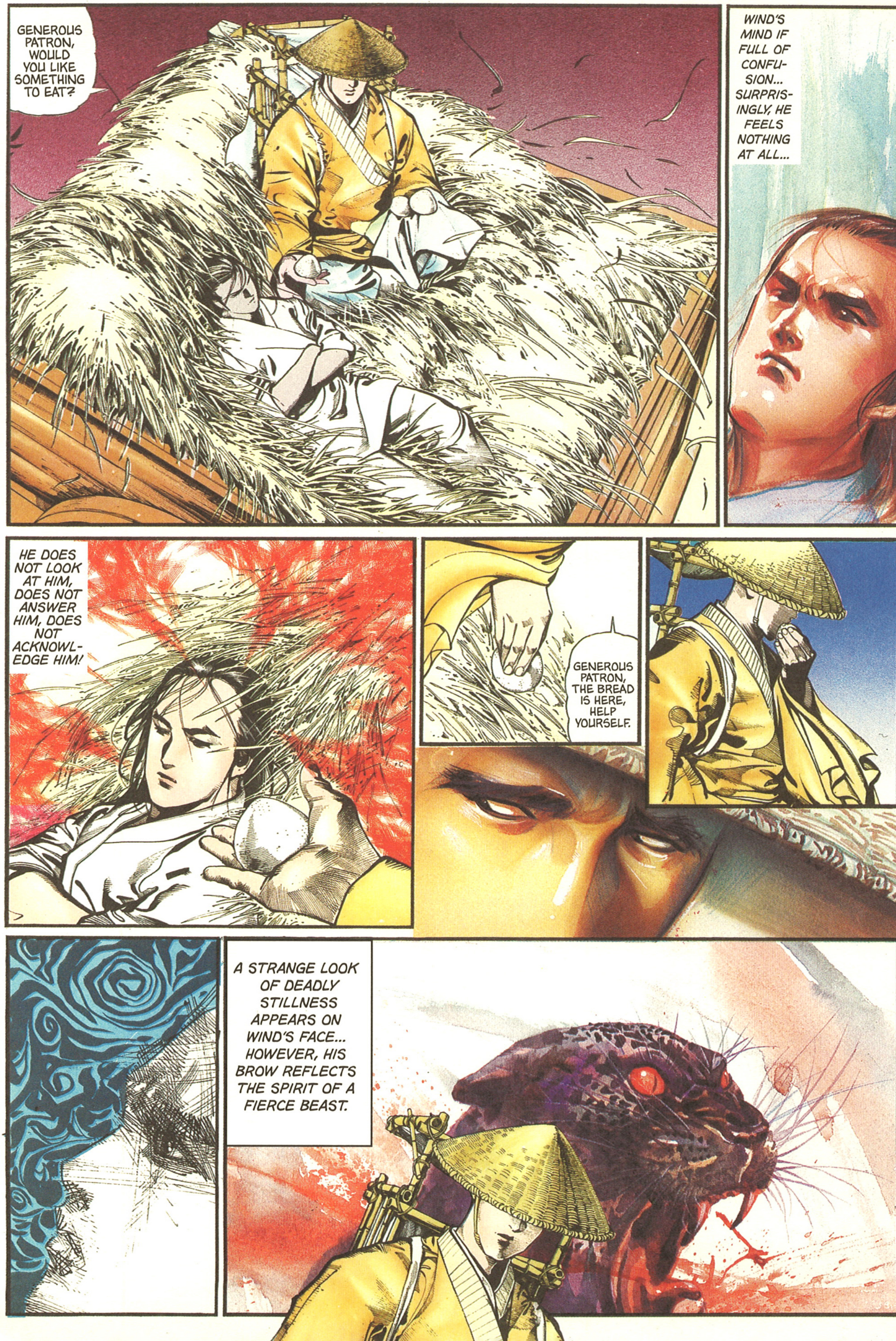
DuGu Ming: Son of the master of Peerless Castle, DuGu Yifang. He is the only survivor of Conquer's assault on Peerless Castle. He seeks revenge on Conquer for killing his father.
Technique: Dragon Kick

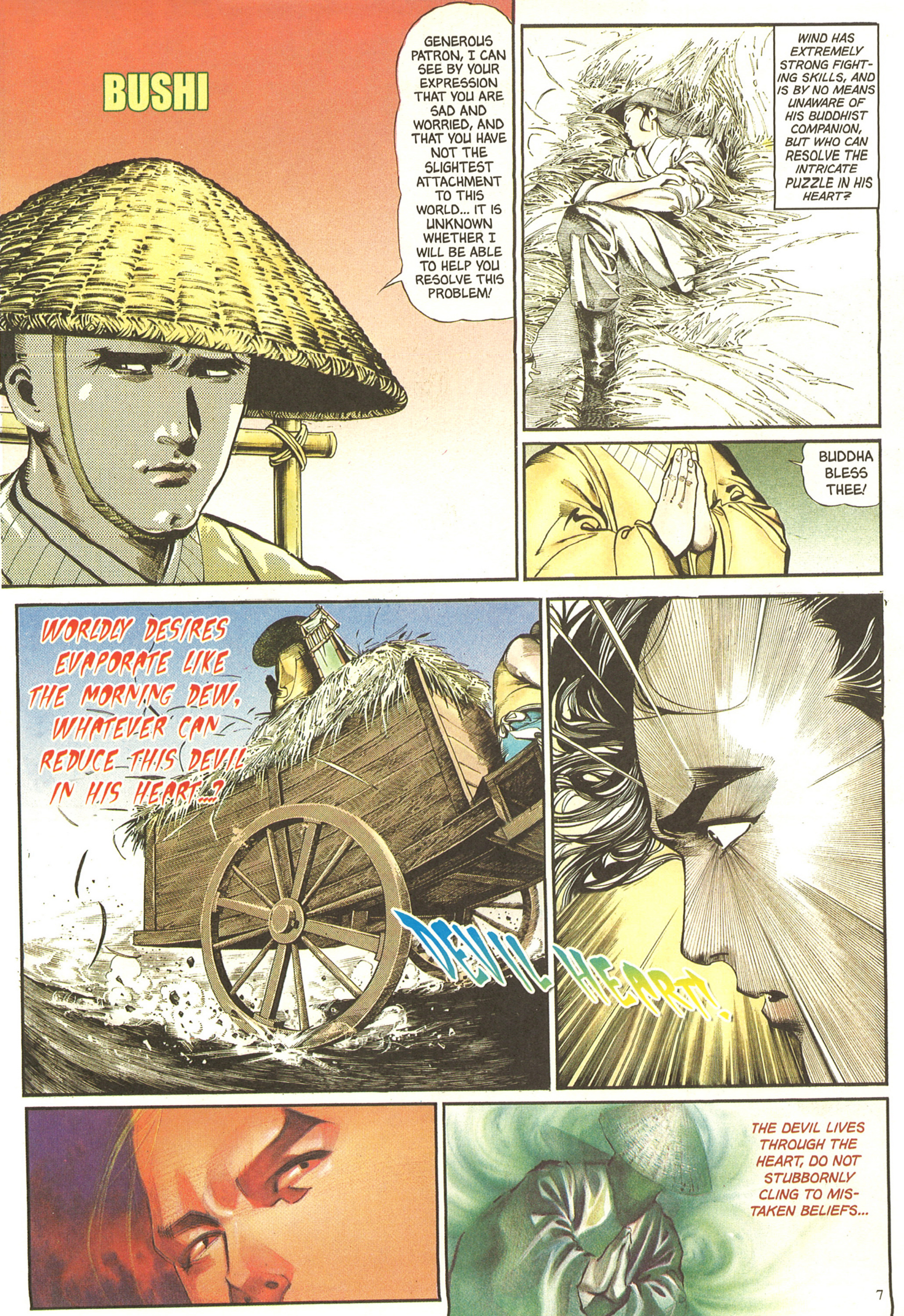


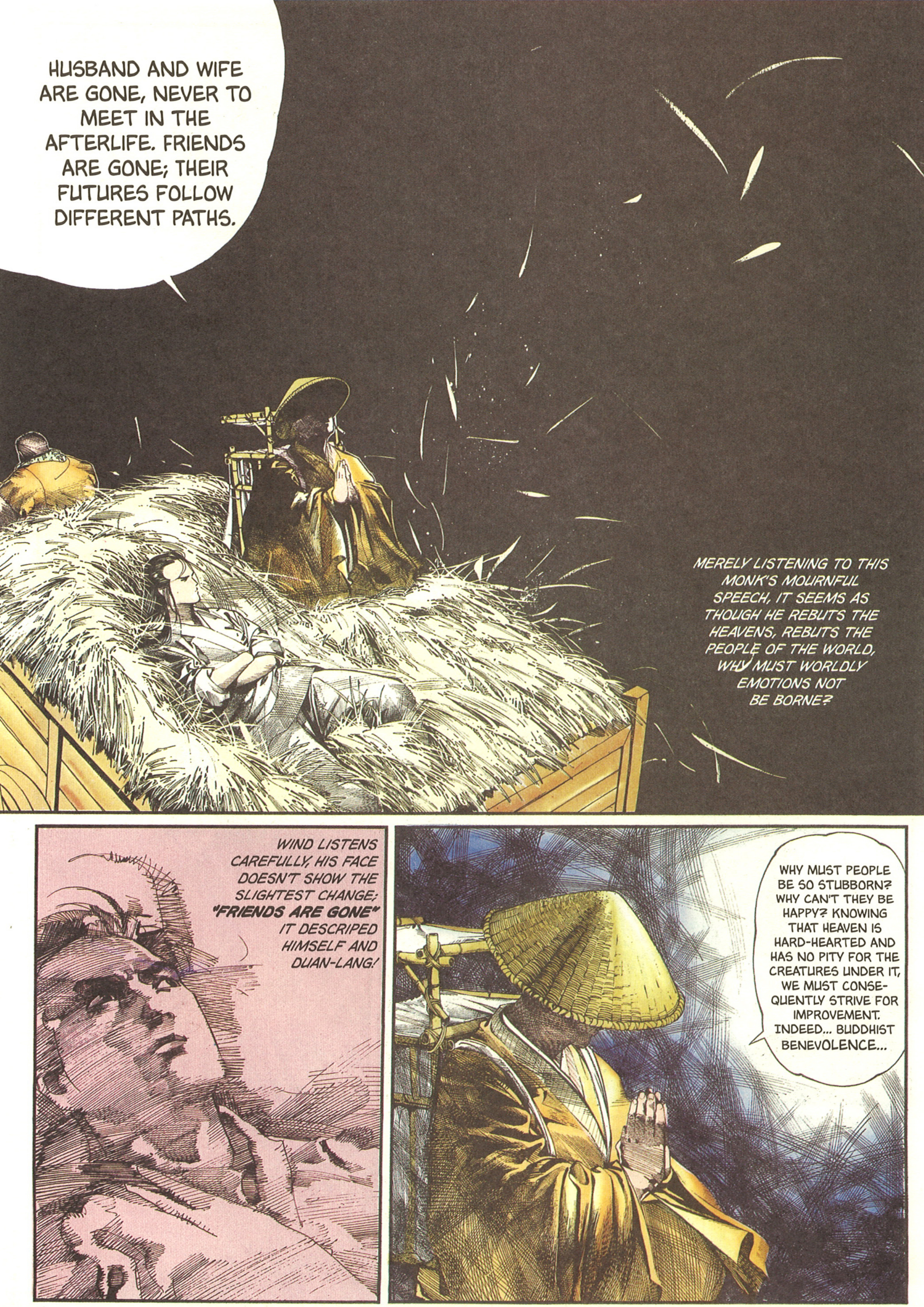
Wu Buddha

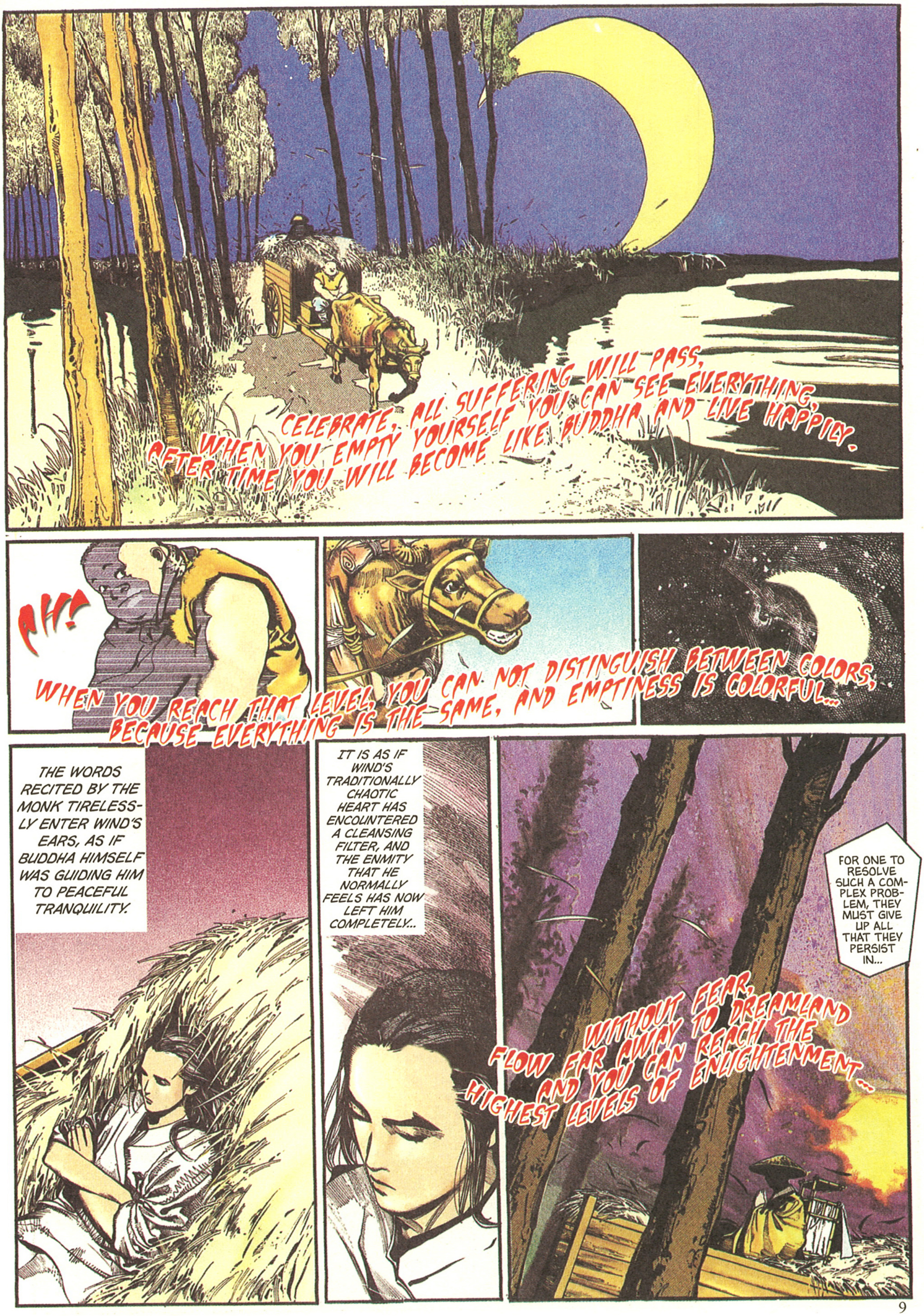
Wu Buddha: Friend of DuGu Yifang's family and a Kung Fu master. He aids DuGu Ming in his quest for revenge.
Technique: Buddha Palms

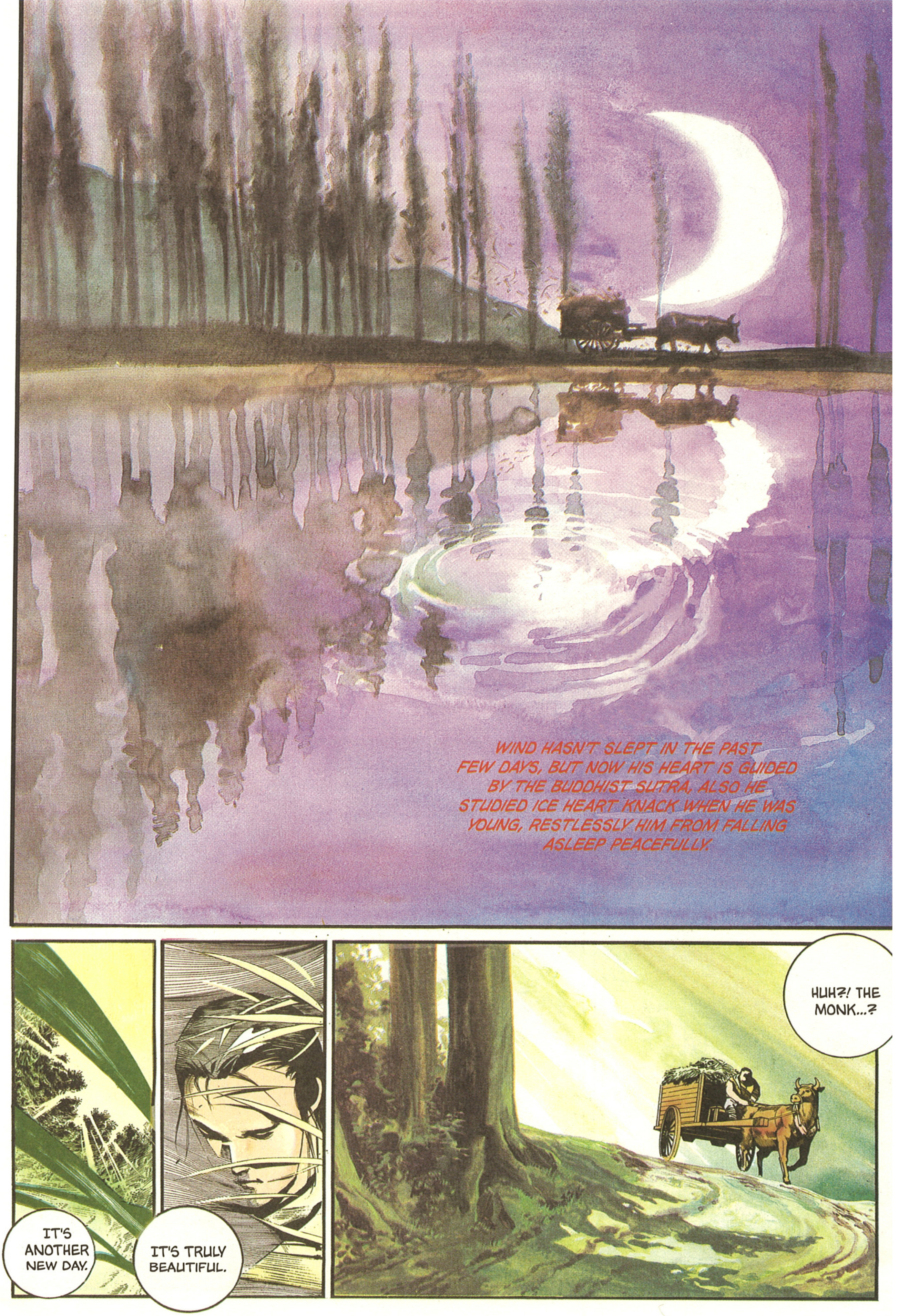
Chapter 16: Comprehension

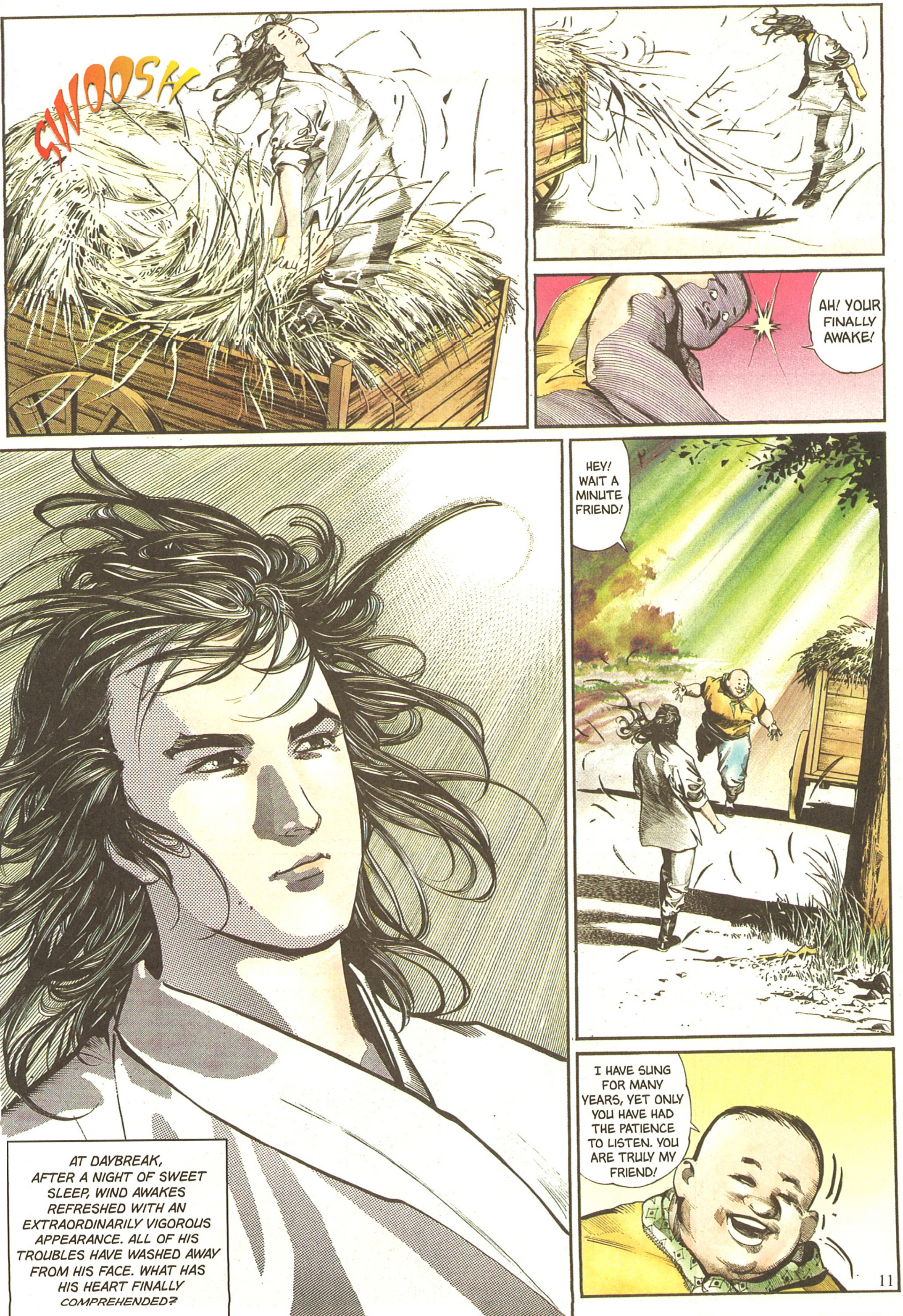

GENEROUS PATRON, WOULD YOU LIKE SOMETHING TO EAT?
WIND'S MIND IF FULL OF CONFUSION... SURPRISINGLY, HE FEELS NOTHING AT ALL...
HE DOES NOT LOOK AT HIM, DOES NOT ANSWER HIM, DOES NOT ACKNOWLEDGE HIM!
GENEROUS PATRON, THE BREAD IS HERE, HELP YOURSELF.
A STRANGE LOOK OF DEADLY STILLNESS APPEARS ON WIND'S FACE... HOWEVER, HIS BROW REFLECTS THE SPIRIT OF A FIERCE BEAST.

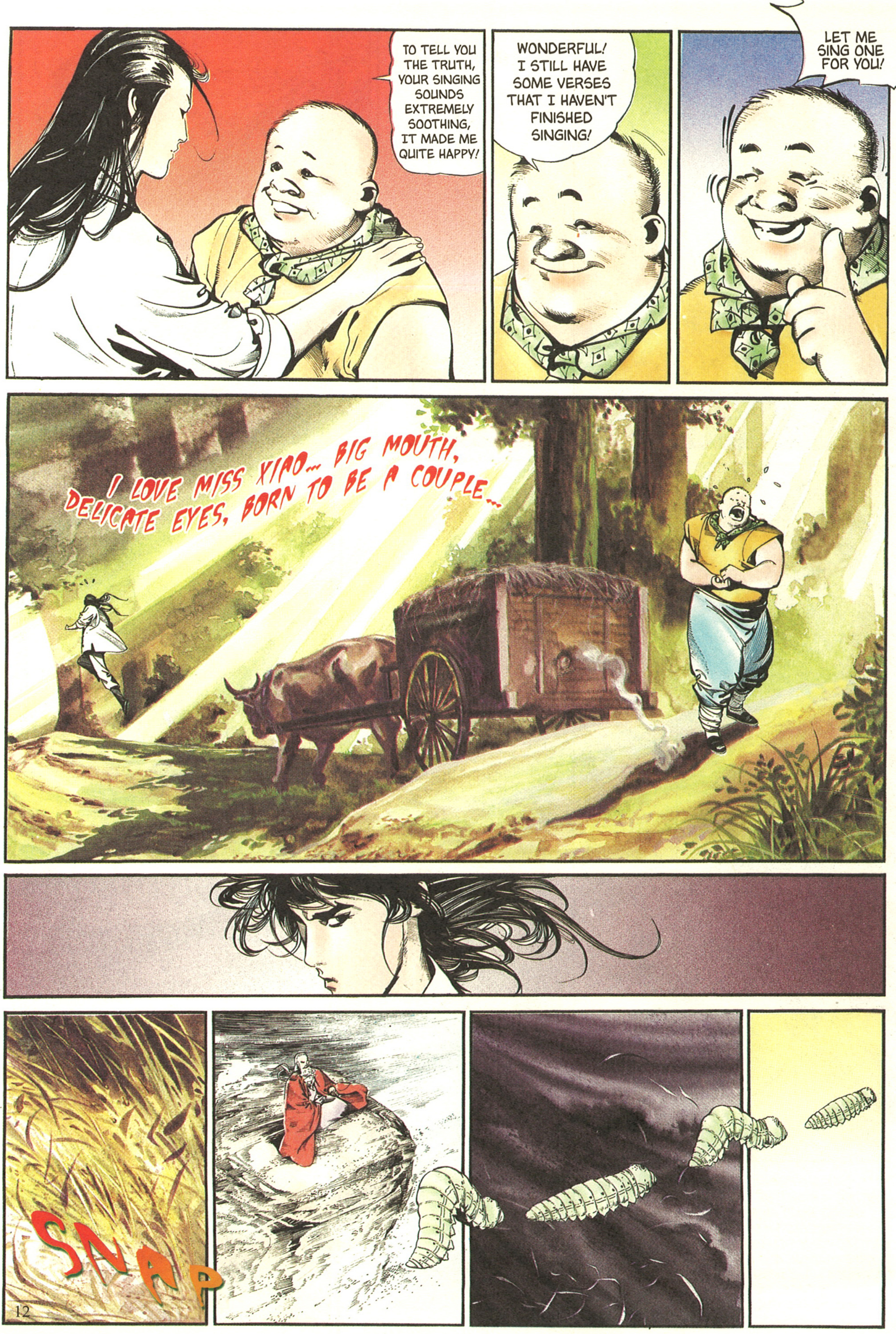

BUSHI
GENEROUS PATRON, I CAN SEE BY YOUR EXPRESSION THAT YOU ARE SAD AND WORRIED, AND THAT YOU HAVE NOT THE SLIGHTEST ATTACHMENT TO THIS WORLD... IT IS UNKNOWN WHETHER I WILL BE ABLE TO HELP YOU RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM!
WIND HAS EXTREMELY STRONG FIGHTING SKILLS, AND IS BY NO MEANS UNAWARE OF HIS BUDDHIST COMPANION, BUT WHO CAN RESOLVE THE INTRICATE PUZZLE IN HIS HEART?
BUDDHA BLESS THEE!
WORLDLY DESIRES EVAPORATE LIKE THE MORNING DEW, WHATEVER CAN REDUCE THIS DEVIL IN HIS HEART...?
DEVIL HEART!
THE DEVIL LIVES THROUGH THE HEART, DO NOT STUBBORNLY CLING TO MISTAKEN BELIEFS...

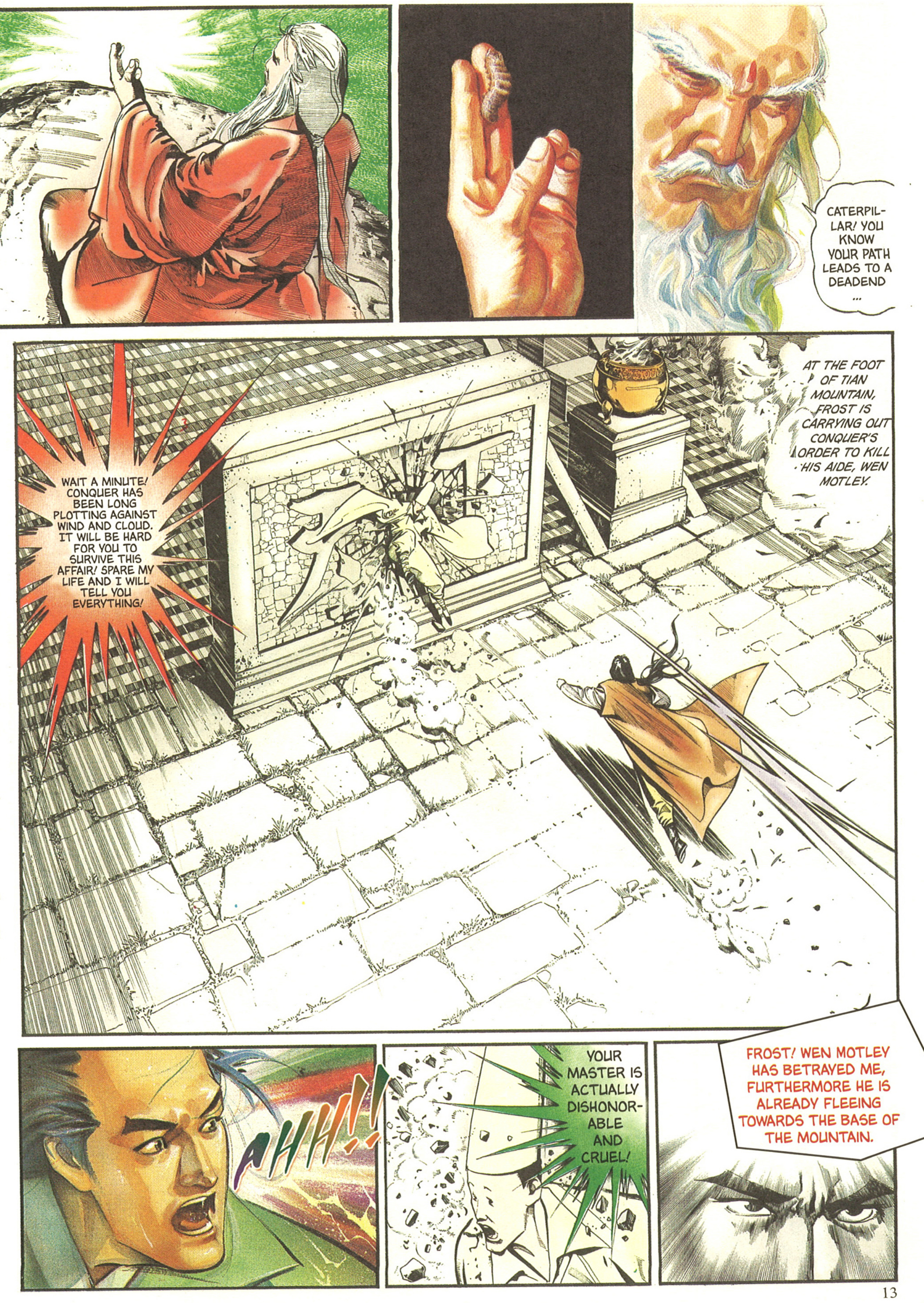

HUSBAND AND WIFE ARE GONE, NEVER TO MEET IN THE AFTERLIFE. FRIENDS ARE GONE; THEIR FUTURES FOLLOW DIFFERENT PATHS.
MERELY LISTENING TO THIS MONK'S MOURNFUL SPEECH, IT SEEMS AS THOUGH HE REBUTS THE HEAVENS, REBUTS THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD, WHY MUST WORLDLY EMOTIONS NOT BE BORNE?
WIND LISTENS CAREFULLY, HIS FACE DOESN'T SHOW THE SLIGHTEST CHANGE; **"FRIENDS ARE GONE"** IT DESCRIPED HIMSELF AND DUAN-LANG!
WHY MUST PEOPLE BE SO STUBBORN? WHY CAN'T THEY BE HAPPY? KNOWING THAT HEAVEN IS HARD-HEARTED AND HAS NO PITY FOR THE CREATURES UNDER IT, WE MUST CONSEQUENTLY STRIVE FOR IMPROVEMENT. INDEED... BUDDHIST BENEVOLENCE...

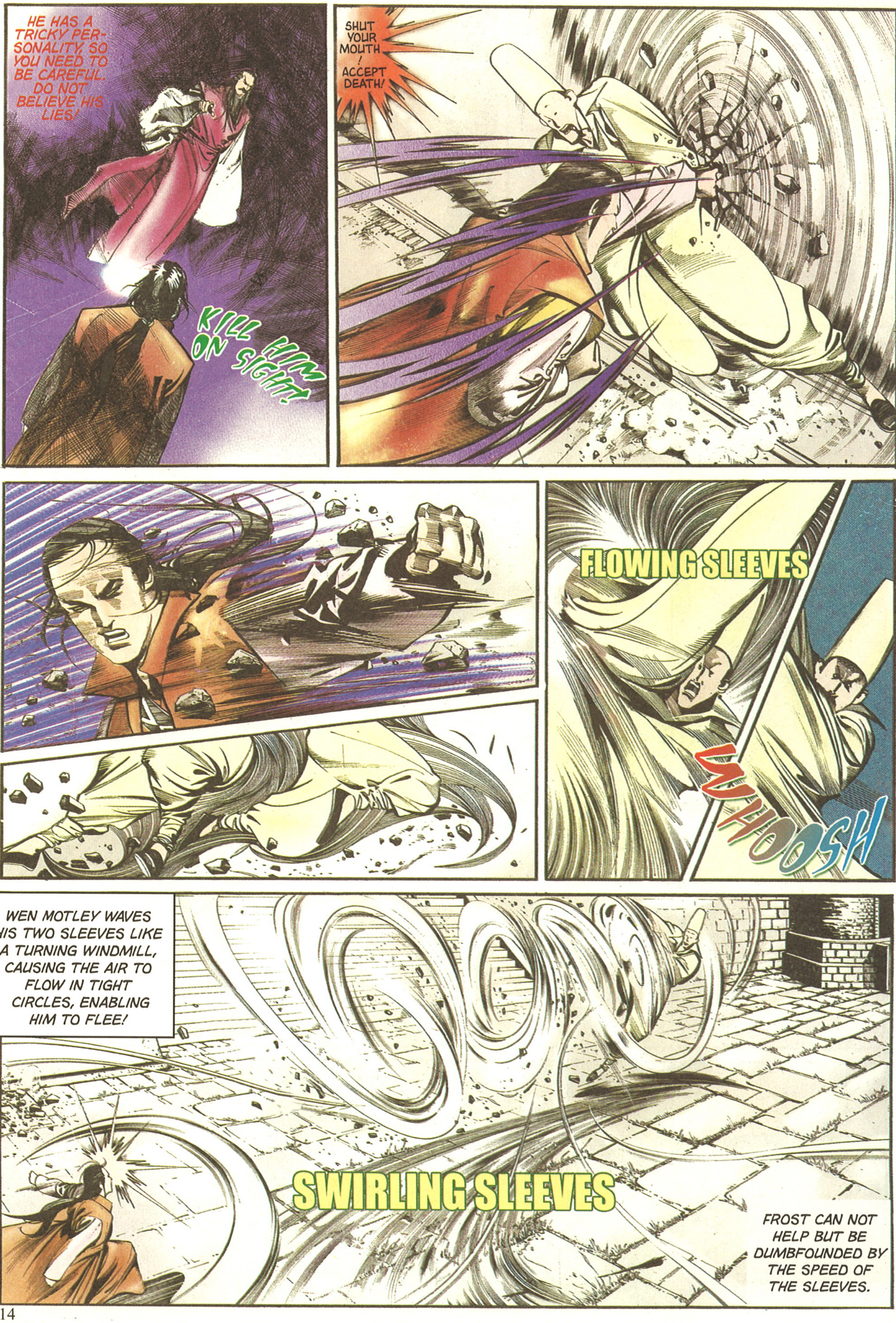

CELEBRATE, ALL SUFFERING WILL PASS,
WHEN YOU EMPTY YOURSELF YOU CAN SEE EVERYTHING,
AFTER TIME YOU WILL BECOME LIKE BUDDHA AND LIVE HAPPILY.
AH!
WHEN YOU REACH THAT LEVEL, YOU CAN NOT DISTINGUISH BETWEEN COLORS,
BECAUSE EVERYTHING IS THE SAME, AND EMPTINESS IS COLORFUL...
THE WORDS RECITED BY THE MONK TIRELESSLY ENTER WIND'S EARS, AS IF BUDDHA HIMSELF WAS GUIDING HIM TO PEACEFUL TRANQUILITY.
IT IS AS IF WIND'S TRADITIONALLY CHAOTIC HEART HAS ENCOUNTERED A CLEANSING FILTER, AND THE ENMITY THAT HE NORMALLY FEELS HAS NOW LEFT HIM COMPLETELY...
FOR ONE TO RESOLVE SUCH A COMPLEX PROBLEM, THEY MUST GIVE UP ALL THAT THEY PERSIST IN...
WITHOUT FEAR,
FLOW FAR AWAY TO DREAMLAND
AND YOU CAN REACH THE
HIGHEST LEVELS OF ENLIGHTENMENT...

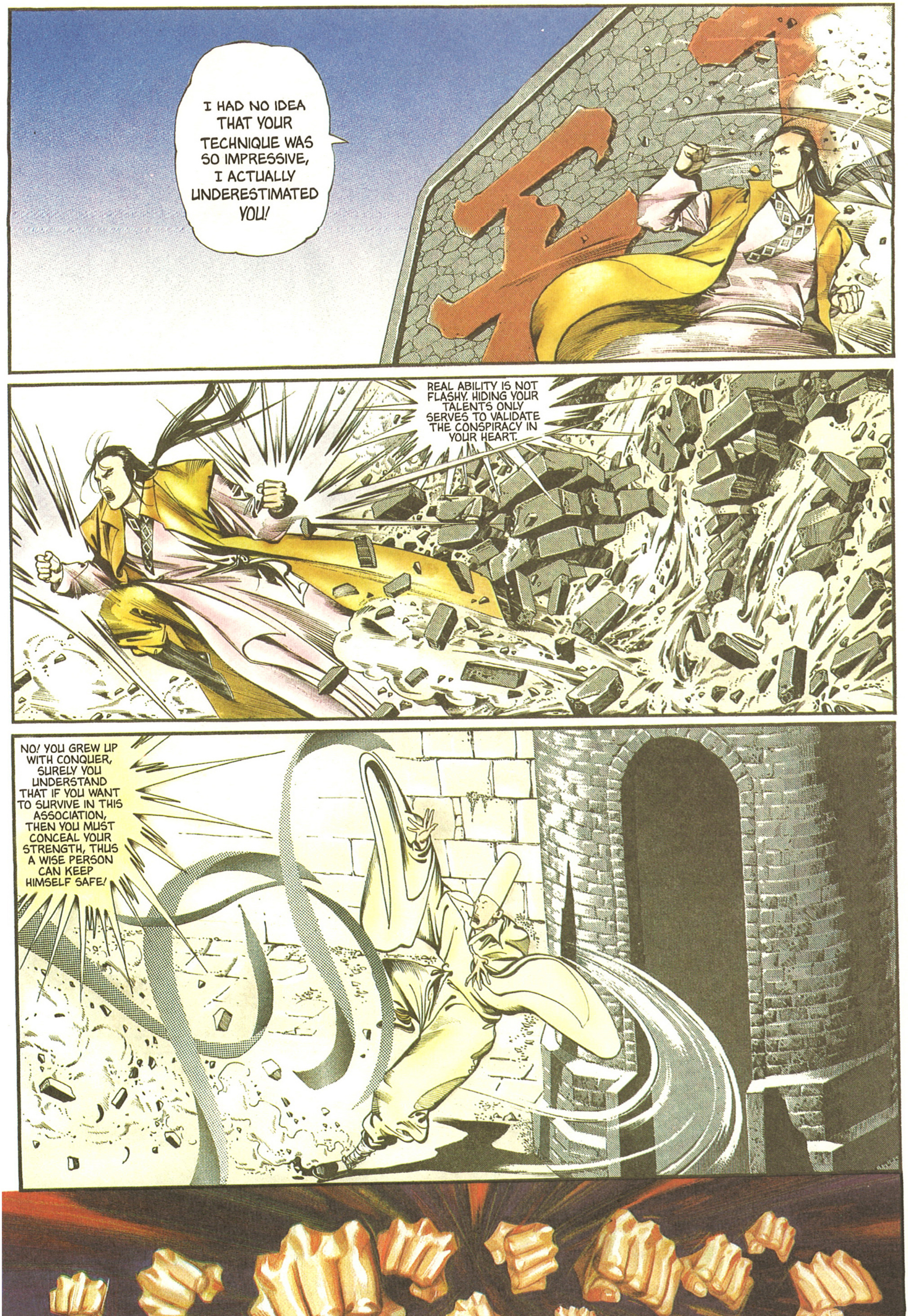

WIND HASN'T SLEPT IN THE PAST FEW DAYS, BUT NOW HIS HEART IS GUIDED BY THE BUDDHIST SUTRA, ALSO HE STUDIED ICE HEART KNACK WHEN HE WAS YOUNG, RESTLESSLY HIM FROM FALLING ASLEEP PEACEFULLY.
IT'S ANOTHER NEW DAY.
IT'S TRULY BEAUTIFUL.
HUH?! THE MONK...?

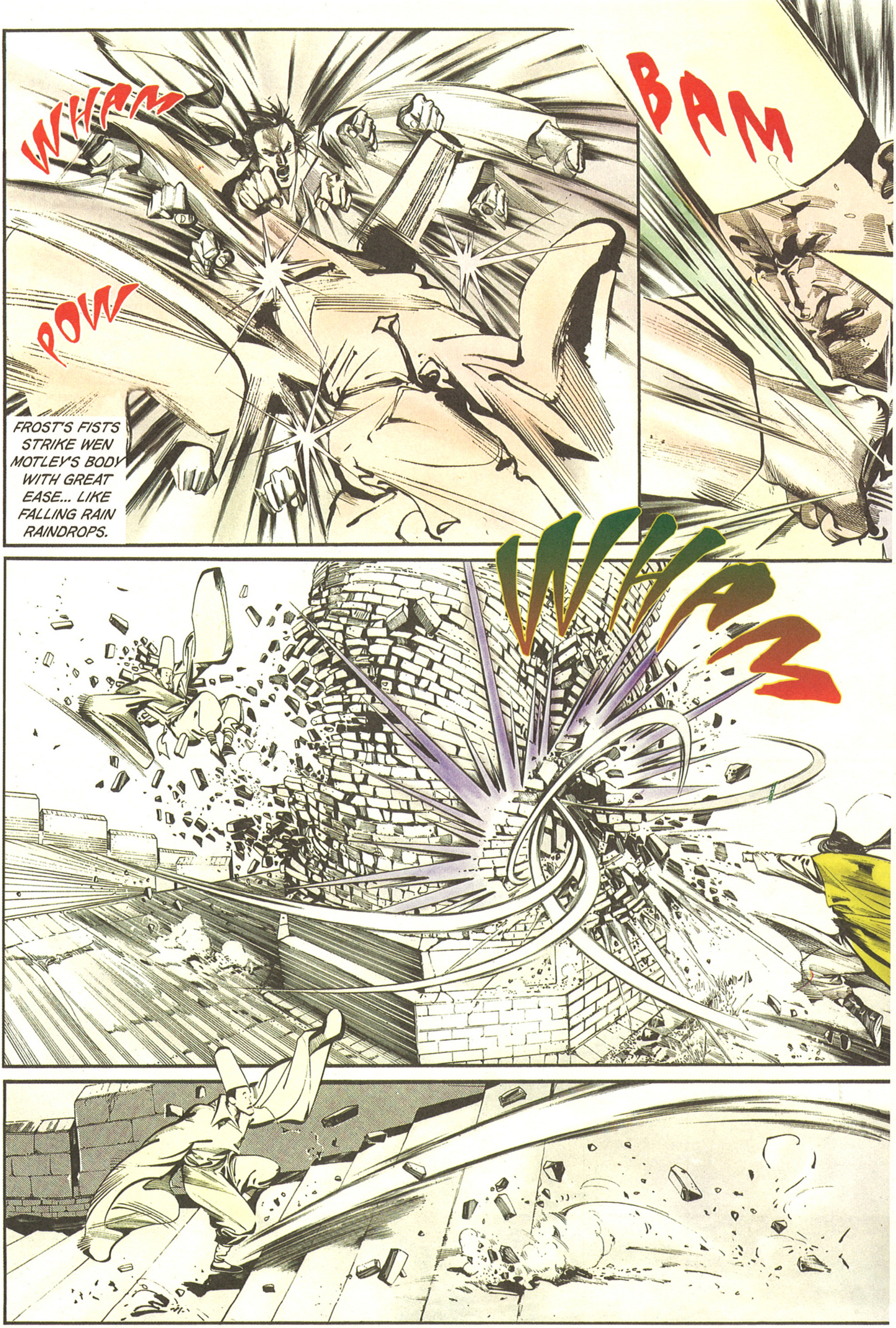

SWOOSH
AH! YOUR FINALLY AWAKE!
AT DAYBREAK, AFTER A NIGHT OF SWEET SLEEP, WIND AWAKES REFRESHED WITH AN EXTRAORDINARILY VIGOROUS APPEARANCE. ALL OF HIS TROUBLES HAVE WASHED AWAY FROM HIS FACE. WHAT HAS HIS HEART FINALLY COMPREHENDED?
HEY! WAIT A MINUTE FRIEND!
I HAVE SUNG FOR MANY YEARS, YET ONLY YOU HAVE HAD THE PATIENCE TO LISTEN. YOU ARE TRULY MY FRIEND!

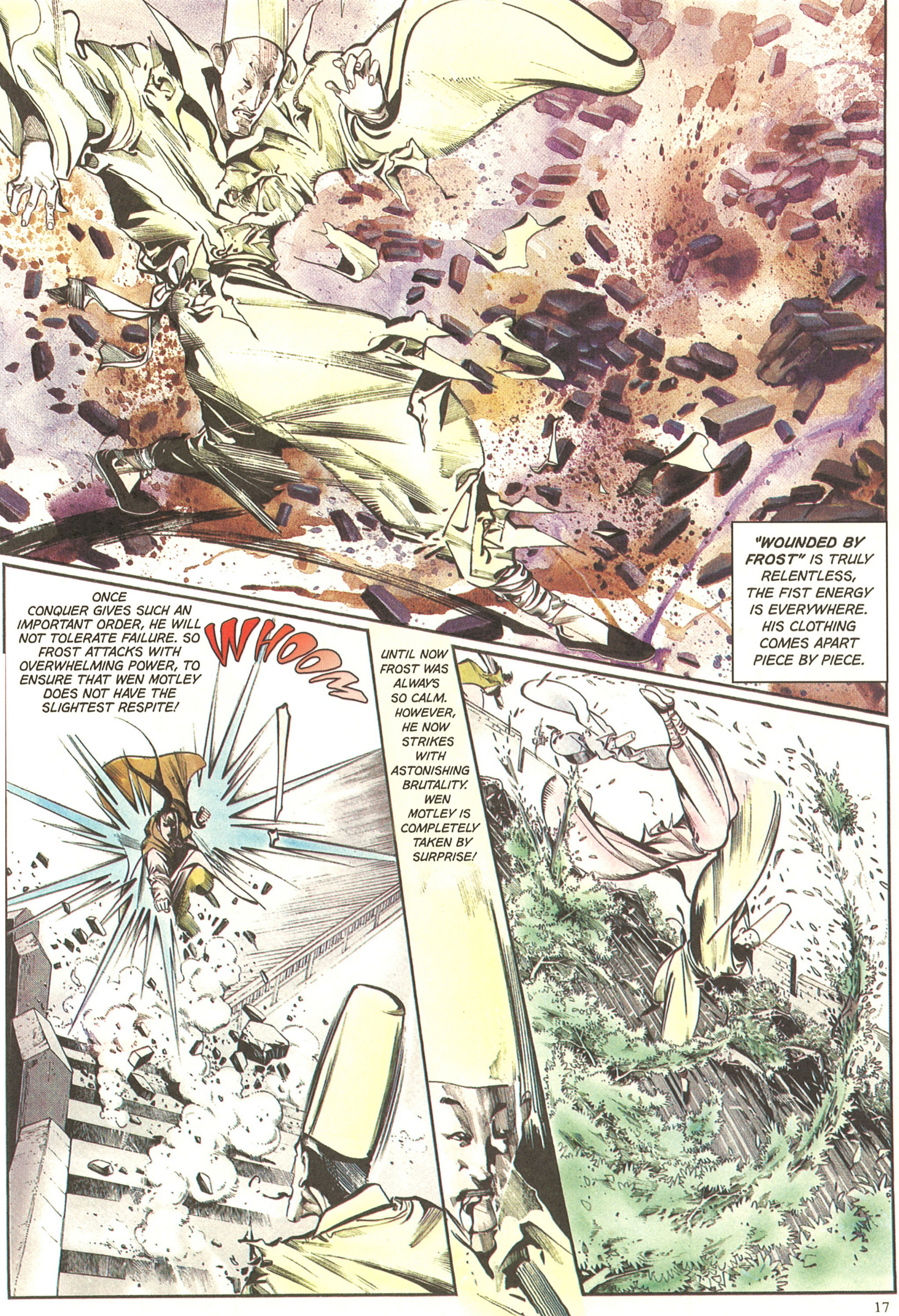

TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, YOUR SINGING SOUNDS EXTREMELY SOOTHING, IT MADE ME QUITE HAPPY!
WONDERFUL! I STILL HAVE SOME VERSES THAT I HAVEN'T FINISHED SINGING!
LET ME SING ONE FOR YOU!
I LOVE MISS XIAO... BIG MOUTH, DELICATE EYES, BORN TO BE A COUPLE...
SNAP

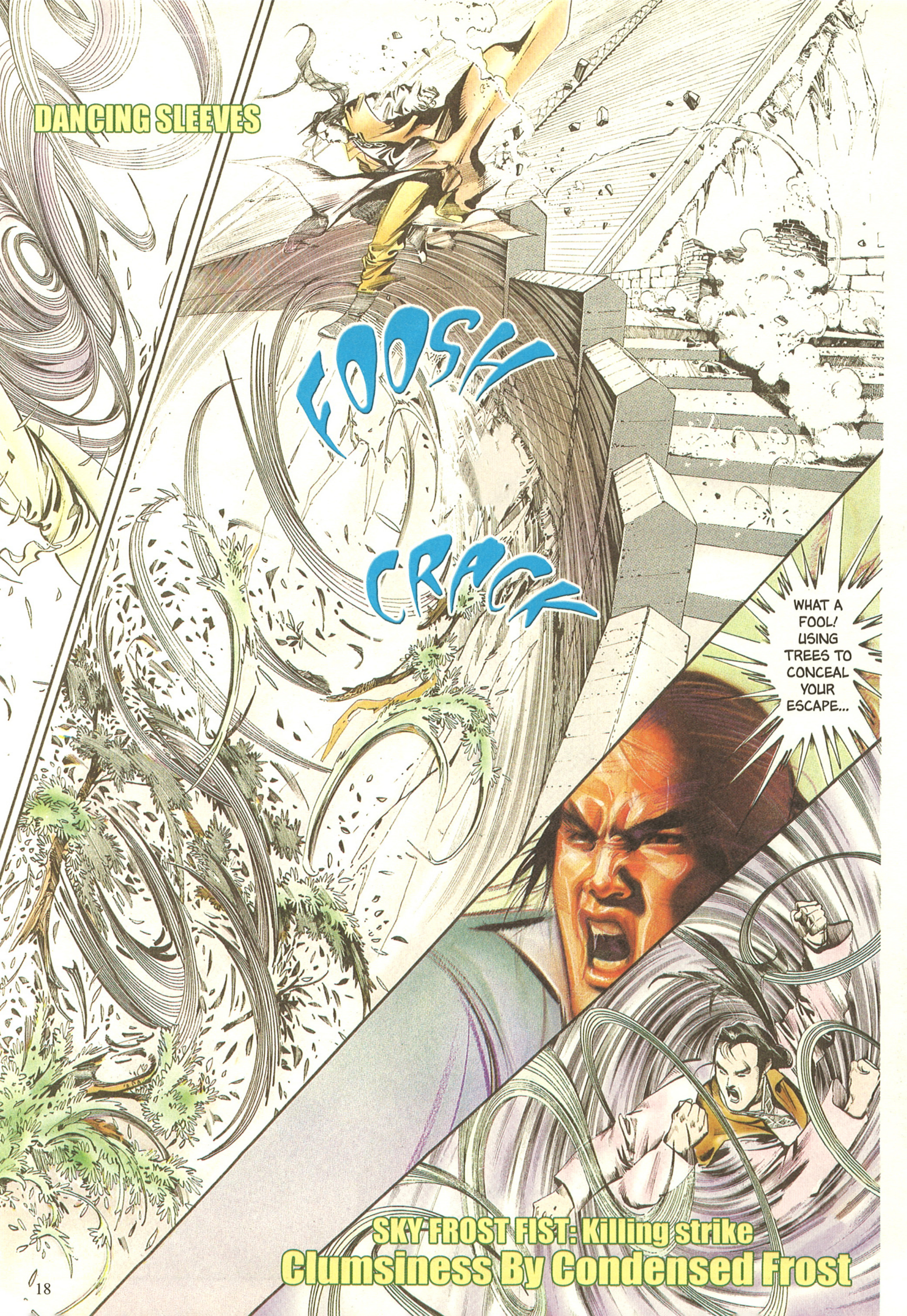

CATERPILLAR! YOU KNOW YOUR PATH LEADS TO A DEADEND ...
AT THE FOOT OF TIAN MOUNTAIN, FROST IS CARRYING OUT CONQUER'S ORDER TO KILL HIS AIDE, WEN MOTLEY.
WAIT A MINUTE! CONQUER HAS BEEN LONG PLOTTING AGAINST WIND AND CLOUD. IT WILL BE HARD FOR YOU TO SURVIVE THIS AFFAIR! SPARE MY LIFE AND I WILL TELL YOU EVERYTHING!
AHH!!
YOUR MASTER IS ACTUALLY DISHONORABLE AND CRUEL!
FROST! WEN MOTLEY HAS BETRAYED ME, FURTHERMORE HE IS ALREADY FLEEING TOWARDS THE BASE OF THE MOUNTAIN.

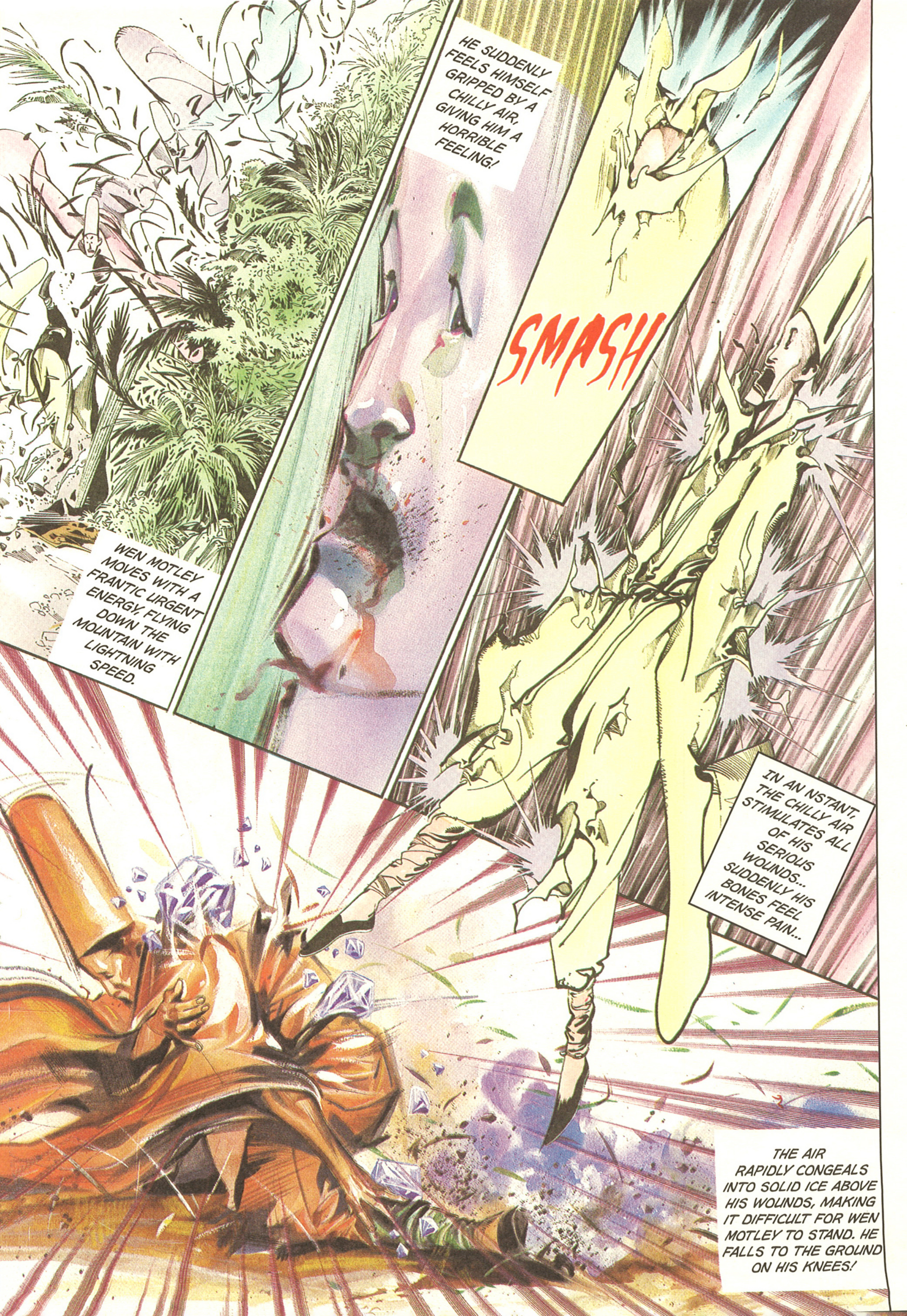

HE HAS A TRICKY PERSONALITY, SO YOU NEED TO BE CAREFUL. DO NOT BELIEVE HIS LIES!
KILL HIM ON SIGHT!
SHUT YOUR MOUTH! ACCEPT DEATH!
FLOWING SLEEVES
WHOOSH
WEN MOTLEY WAVES HIS TWO SLEEVES LIKE A TURNING WINDMILL, CAUSING THE AIR TO FLOW IN TIGHT CIRCLES, ENABLING HIM TO FLEE!
SWIRLING SLEEVES
FROST CAN NOT HELP BUT BE DUMBFOUNDED BY THE SPEED OF THE SLEEVES.

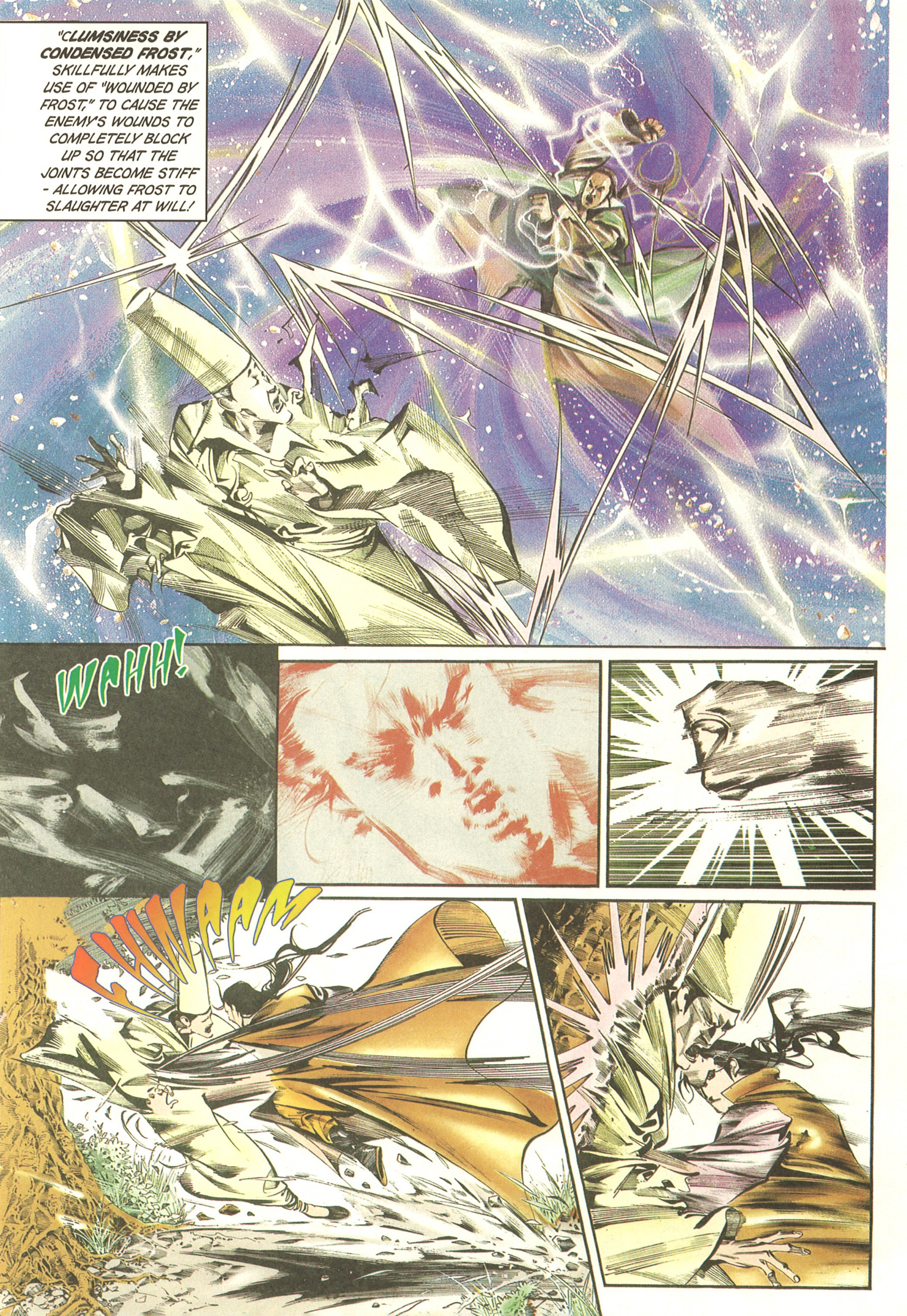

I HAD NO IDEA THAT YOUR TECHNIQUE WAS SO IMPRESSIVE, I ACTUALLY UNDERESTIMATED *YOU!*
REAL ABILITY IS NOT FLASHY. HIDING YOUR TALENTS ONLY SERVES TO VALIDATE THE CONSPIRACY IN YOUR HEART.
NO! YOU GREW UP WITH CONQUER, SURELY YOU UNDERSTAND THAT IF YOU WANT TO SURVIVE IN THIS ASSOCIATION, THEN YOU MUST CONCEAL YOUR STRENGTH, THUS A WISE PERSON CAN KEEP HIMSELF SAFE!

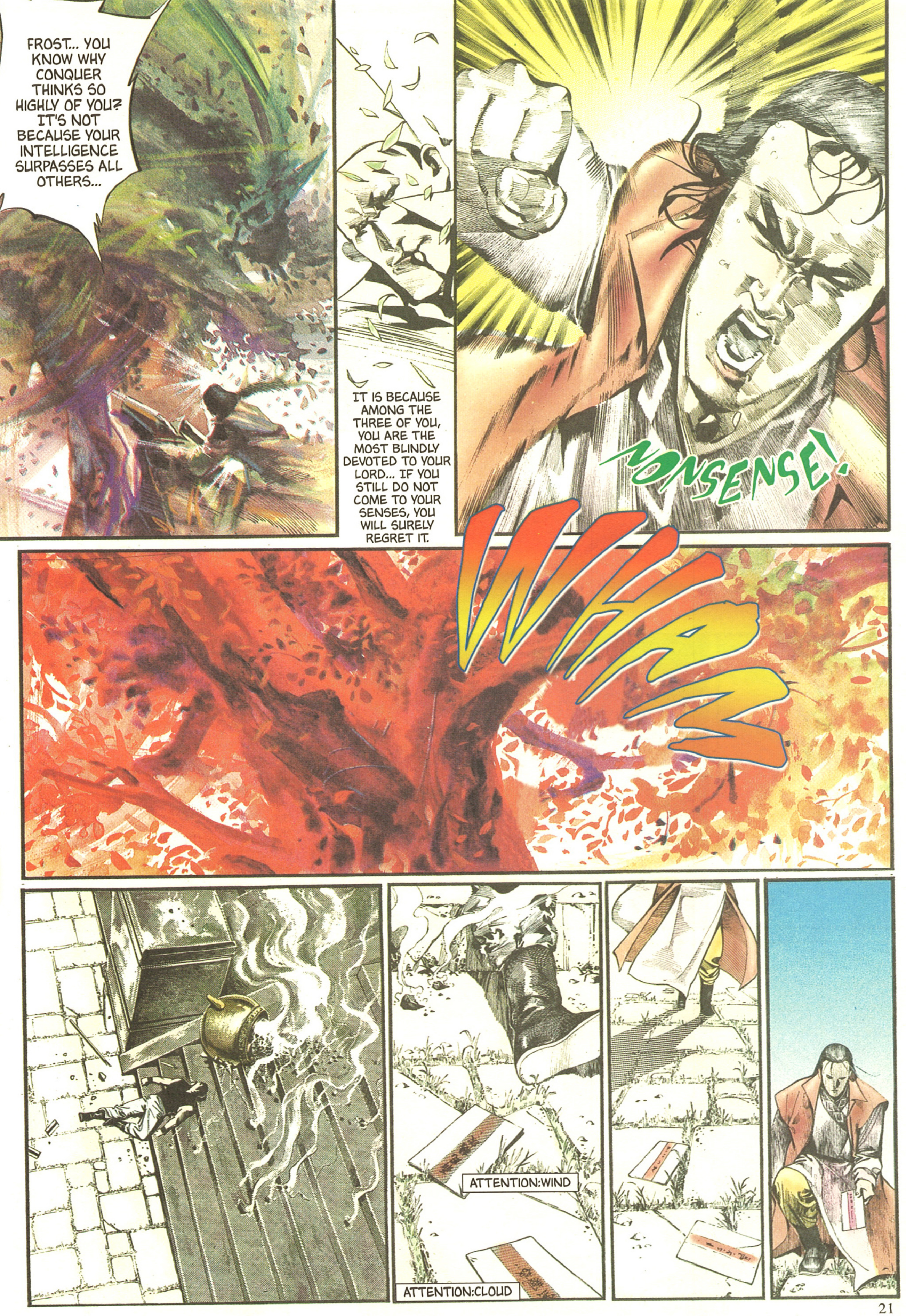

WHAM
POW
FROST'S FISTS STRIKE WEN MOTLEY'S BODY WITH GREAT EASE... LIKE FALLING RAIN RAINDROPS.
BAM
WHAM

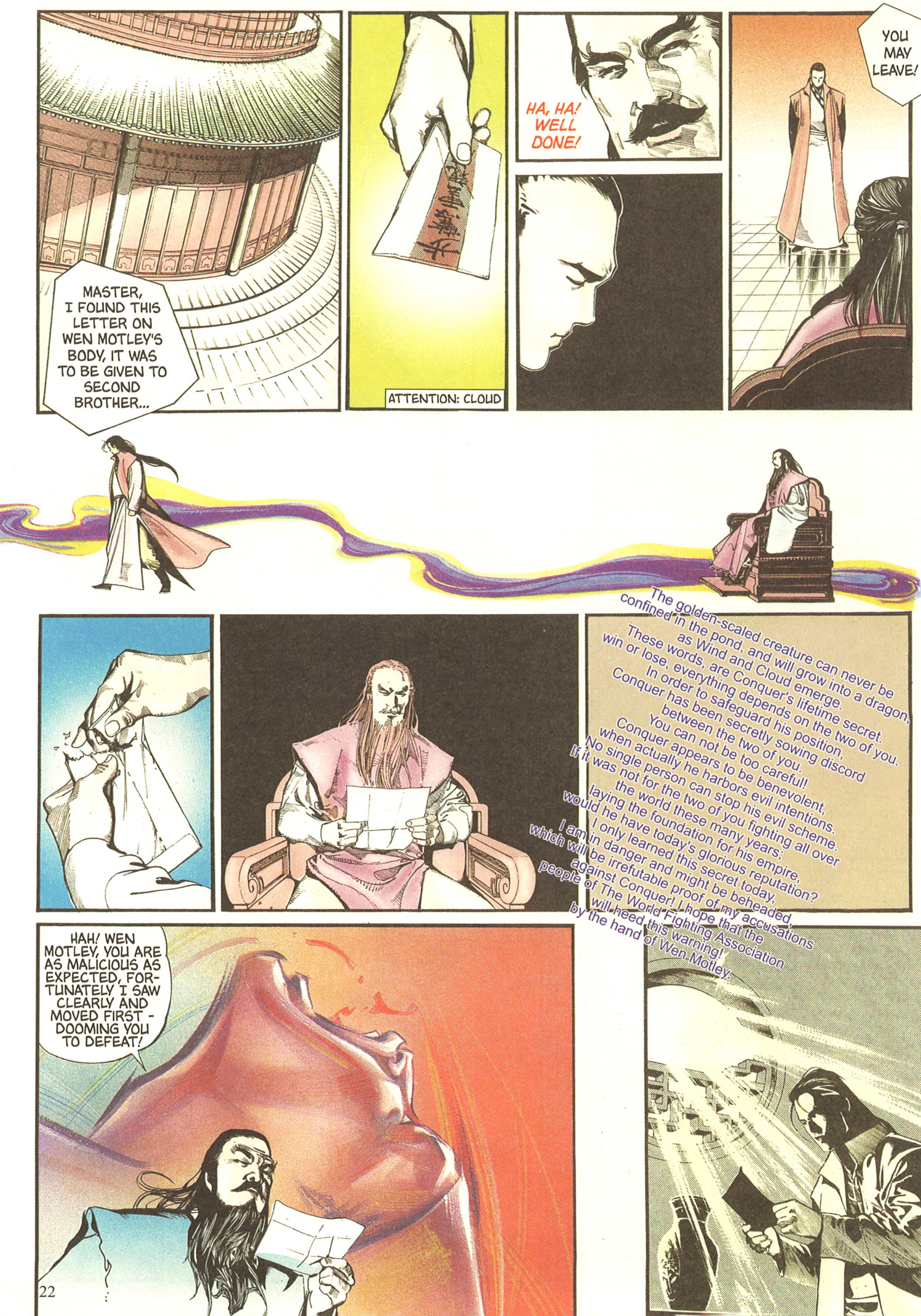

"WOUNDED BY FROST" IS TRULY RELENTLESS, THE FIST ENERGY IS EVERYWHERE. HIS CLOTHING COMES APART PIECE BY PIECE.
ONCE CONQUER GIVES SUCH AN IMPORTANT ORDER, HE WILL NOT TOLERATE FAILURE. SO FROST ATTACKS WITH OVERWHELMING POWER, TO ENSURE THAT WEN MOTLEY DOES NOT HAVE THE SLIGHTEST RESPITE!
WHOOM
UNTIL NOW FROST WAS ALWAYS SO CALM. HOWEVER, HE NOW STRIKES WITH ASTONISHING BRUTALITY. WEN MOTLEY IS COMPLETELY TAKEN BY SURPRISE!

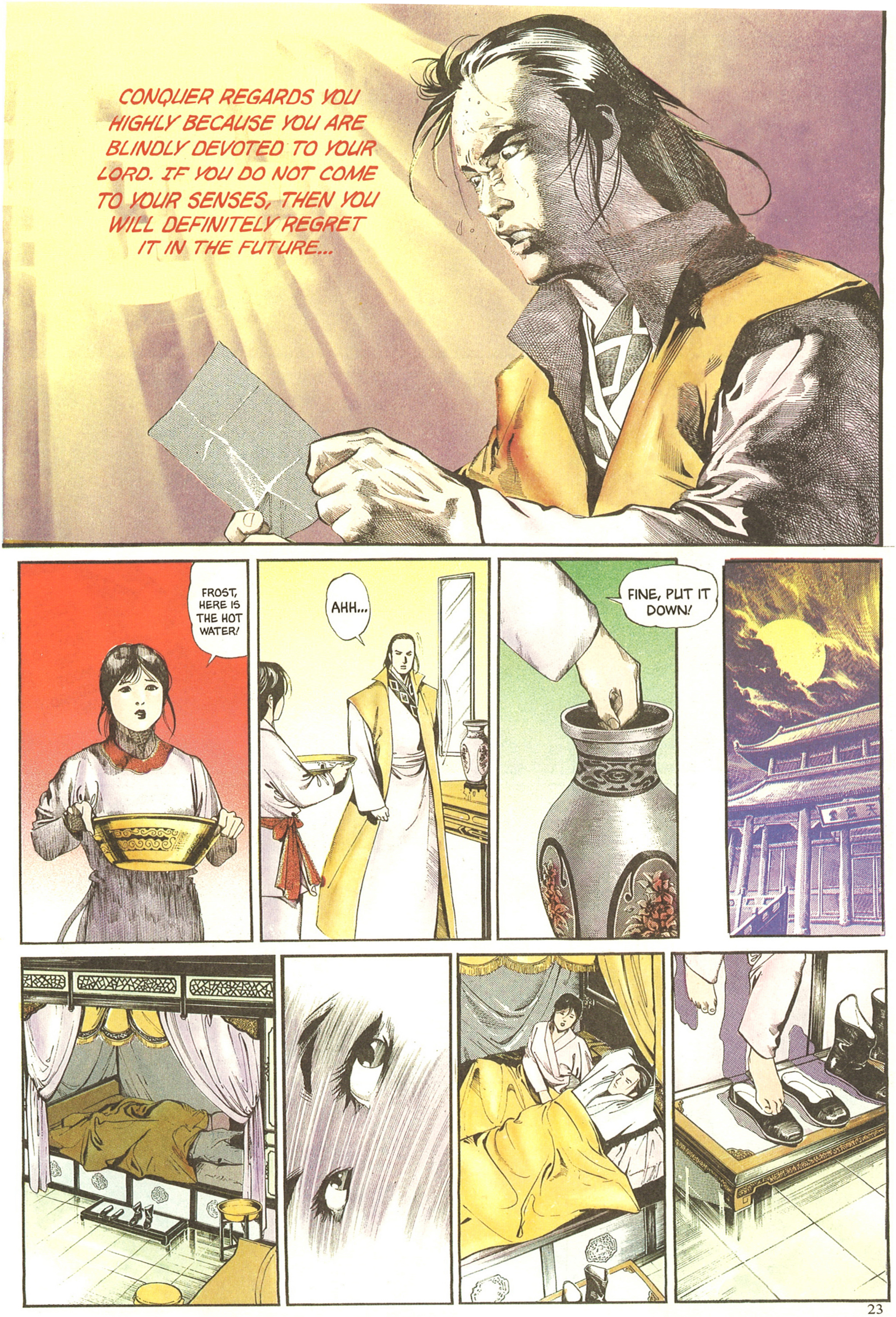

DANCING SLEEVES
FOOSH
CRACK
WHAT A FOOL! USING TREES TO CONCEAL YOUR ESCAPE...
SKY FROST FIST: Killing strike
Clumsiness By Condensed Frost

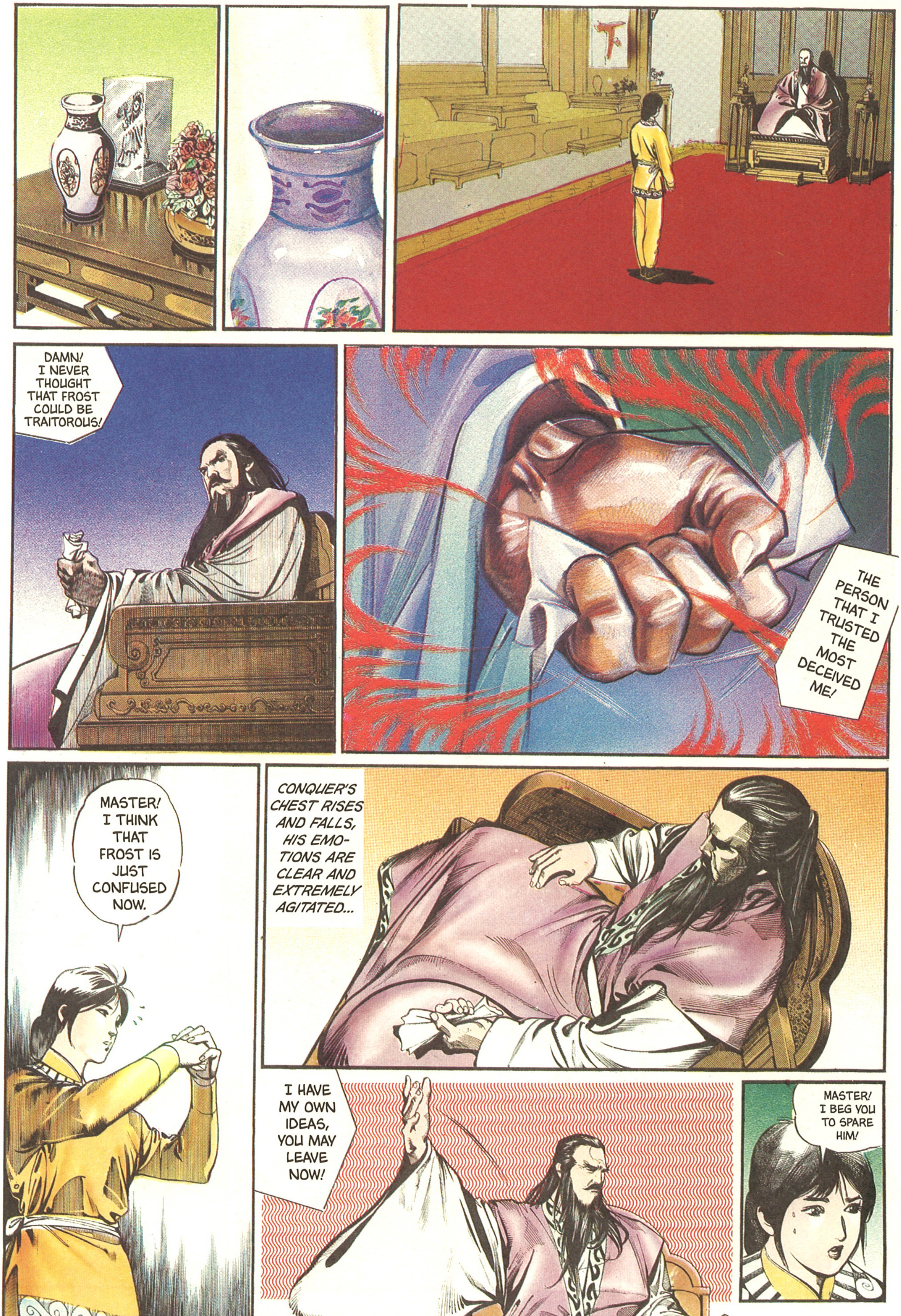

WEN MOTLEY MOVES WITH A FRANTIC URGENT ENERGY, FLYING DOWN THE MOUNTAIN WITH LIGHTNING SPEED.
HE SUDDENLY FEELS HIMSELF GRIPPED BY A CHILLY AIR, GIVING HIM A HORRIBLE FEELING!
SMASH
IN AN NSTANT, THE CHILLY AIR STIMULATES ALL OF HIS SERIOUS WOUNDS... SUDDENLY HIS BONES FEEL INTENSE PAIN...
THE AIR RAPIDLY CONGEALS INTO SOLID ICE ABOVE HIS WOUNDS, MAKING IT DIFFICULT FOR WEN MOTLEY TO STAND. HE FALLS TO THE GROUND ON HIS KNEES!

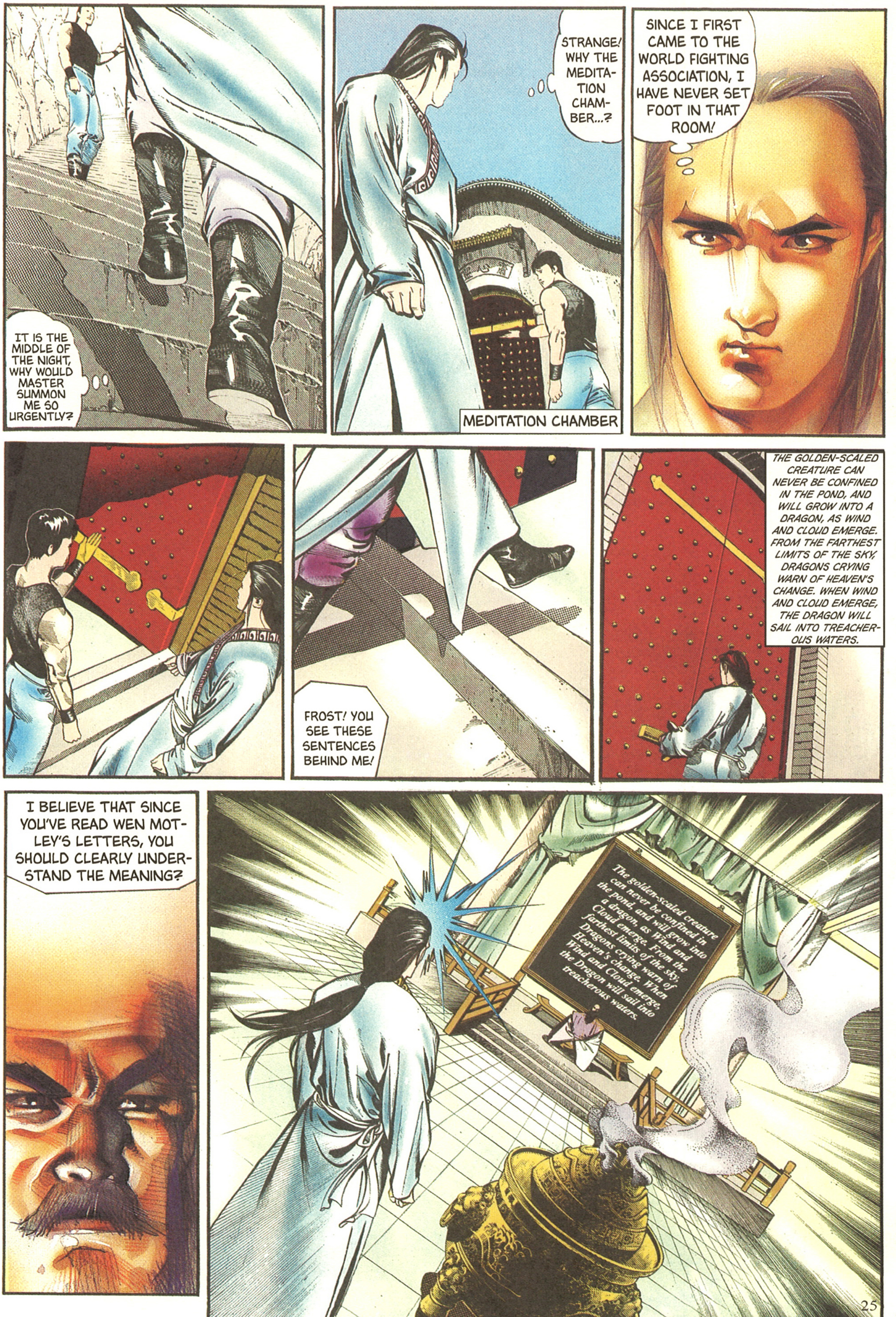

"CLUMSINESS BY CONDENSED FROST," SKILLFULLY MAKES USE OF "WOUNDED BY FROST," TO CAUSE THE ENEMY'S WOUNDS TO COMPLETELY BLOCK UP SO THAT THE JOINTS BECOME STIFF - ALLOWING FROST TO SLAUGHTER AT WILL!
WAHH!
CHWAAM

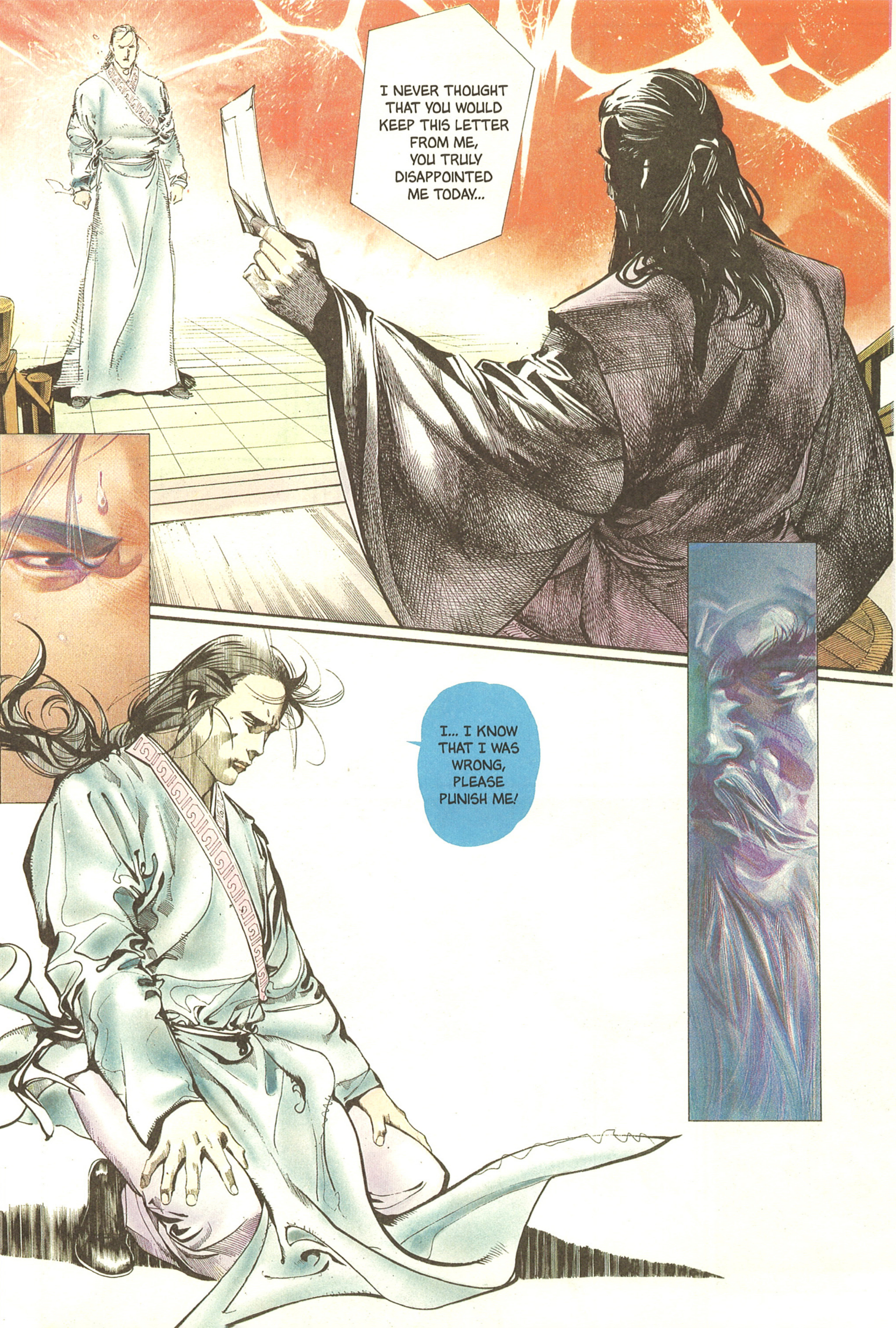

FROST... YOU KNOW WHY CONQUER THINKS SO HIGHLY OF YOU? IT'S NOT BECAUSE YOUR INTELLIGENCE SURPASSES ALL OTHERS...
IT IS BECAUSE AMONG THE THREE OF YOU, YOU ARE THE MOST BLINDLY DEVOTED TO YOUR LORD... IF YOU STILL DO NOT COME TO YOUR SENSES, YOU WILL SURELY REGRET IT.
NONSENSE!
WHAM
ATTENTION:CLOUD
ATTENTION:WIND

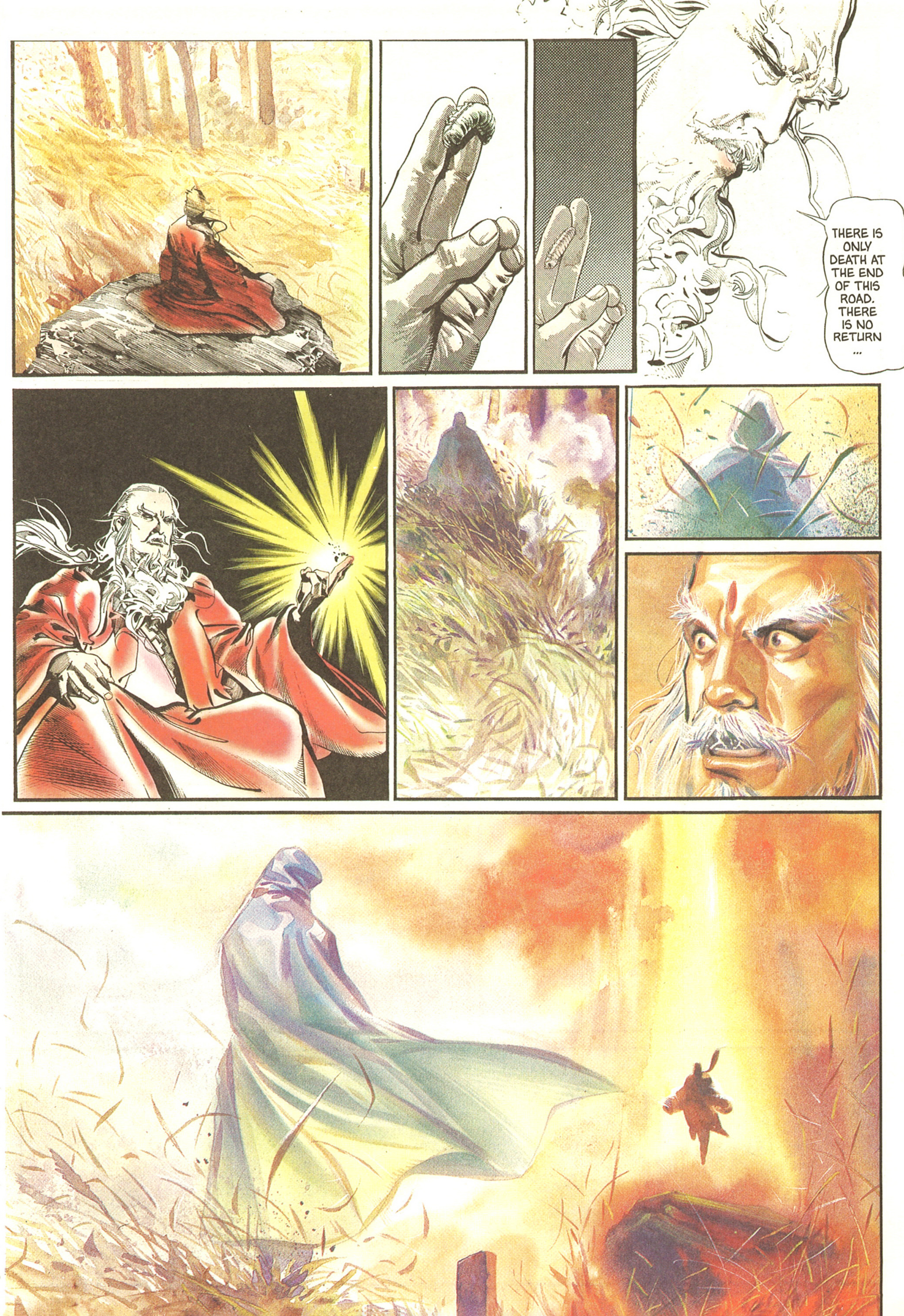

MASTER, I FOUND THIS LETTER ON WEN MOTLEY'S BODY, IT WAS TO BE GIVEN TO SECOND BROTHER...
ATTENTION: CLOUD
HA, HA! WELL DONE!
YOU MAY LEAVE!
The golden-scaled creature can never be confined in the pond, and will grow into a dragon, as Wind and Cloud emerge.
These words, are Conquer's lifetime secret.
win or lose, everything depends on the two of you.
In order to safeguard his position,
Conquer has been secretly sowing discord between the two of you.
You can not be too careful!
Conquer appears to be benevolent, when actually he harbors evil intentions.
No single person can stop his evil scheme.
If it was not for the two of you fighting all over the world these many years;
laying the foundation for his empire,
would he have today's glorious reputation?
I only learned this secret today,
I am in danger and might be beheaded,
which will be irrefutable proof of my accusations against Conquer! I hope that the people of The World Fighting Association will heed this warning!
by the hand of Wen Motley.
HAH! WEN MOTLEY, YOU ARE AS MALICIOUS AS EXPECTED, FORTUNATELY I SAW CLEARLY AND MOVED FIRST - DOOMING YOU TO DEFEAT!

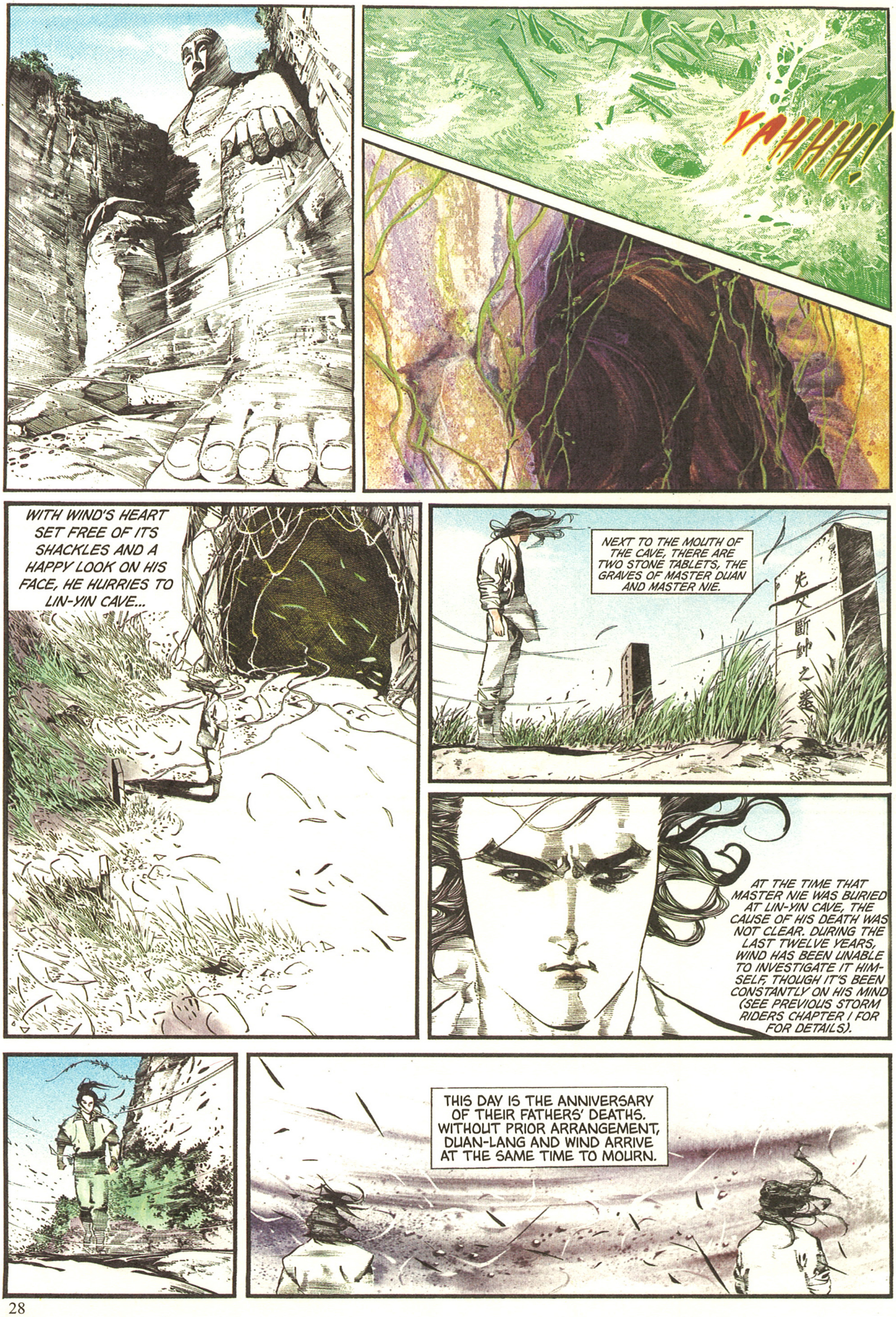

CONQUER REGARDS YOU HIGHLY BECAUSE YOU ARE BLINDLY DEVOTED TO YOUR LORD. IF YOU DO NOT COME TO YOUR SENSES, THEN YOU WILL DEFINITELY REGRET IT IN THE FUTURE...
FROST, HERE IS THE HOT WATER!
AHH...
FINE, PUT IT DOWN!

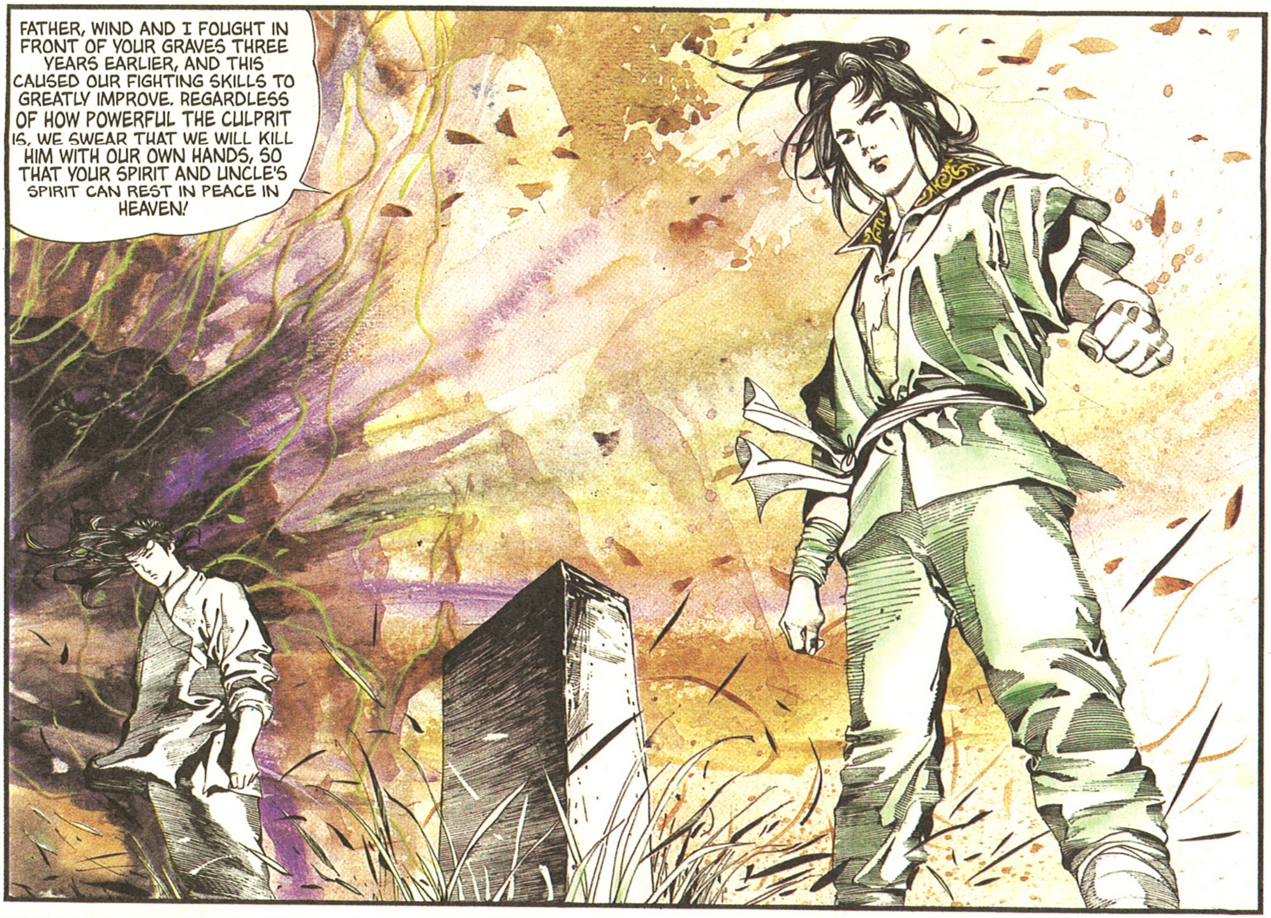

DAMN! I NEVER THOUGHT THAT FROST COULD BE TRAITOROUS!
THE PERSON THAT I TRUSTED THE MOST DECEIVED ME!
MASTER! I THINK THAT FROST IS JUST CONFUSED NOW.
CONQUER'S CHEST RISES AND FALLS, HIS EMOTIONS ARE CLEAR AND EXTREMELY AGITATED...
I HAVE MY OWN IDEAS, YOU MAY LEAVE NOW!
MASTER! I BEG YOU TO SPARE HIM!

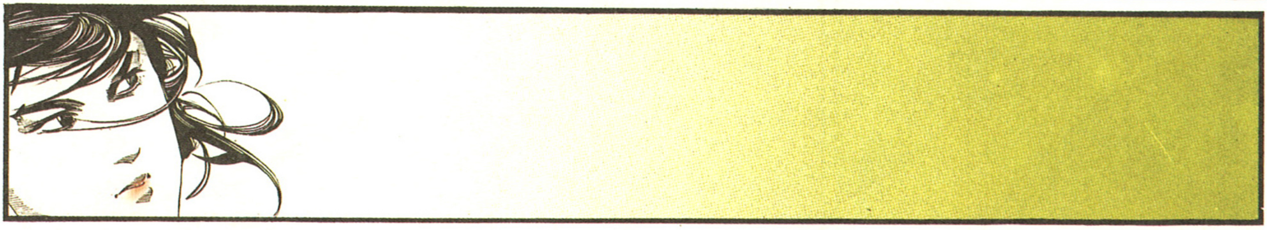

IT IS THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, WHY WOULD MASTER SUMMON ME SO URGENTLY?
STRANGE! WHY THE MEDITATION CHAMBER...?
MEDITATION CHAMBER
SINCE I FIRST CAME TO THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION, I HAVE NEVER SET FOOT IN THAT ROOM!
FROST! YOU SEE THESE SENTENCES BEHIND ME!
THE GOLDEN-SCALED CREATURE CAN NEVER BE CONFINED IN THE POND, AND WILL GROW INTO A DRAGON, AS WIND AND CLOUD EMERGE. FROM THE FARTHEST LIMITS OF THE SKY, DRAGONS CRYING WARN OF HEAVEN'S CHANGE. WHEN WIND AND CLOUD EMERGE, THE DRAGON WILL SAIL INTO TREACHEROUS WATERS.
I BELIEVE THAT SINCE YOU'VE READ WEN MOTLEY'S LETTERS, YOU SHOULD CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THE MEANING?
The golden-scaled creature can never be confined in the pond, and will grow into a dragon, as Wind and Cloud emerge. From the farthest limits of the sky, Dragons crying warn of Heaven's change. When Wind and Cloud emerge, the Dragon will sail into treacherous waters.

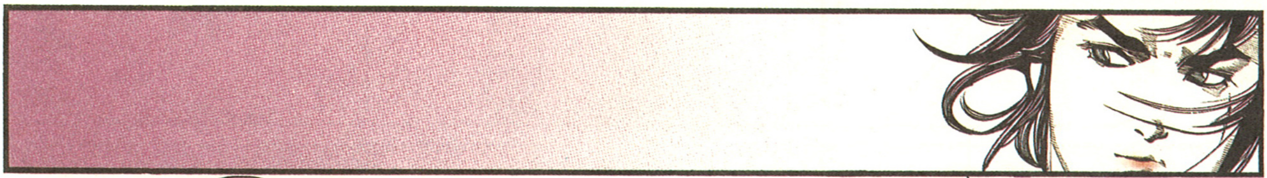

I NEVER THOUGHT THAT YOU WOULD KEEP THIS LETTER FROM ME, YOU TRULY DISAPPOINTED ME TODAY...
I... I KNOW THAT I WAS WRONG, PLEASE PUNISH ME!

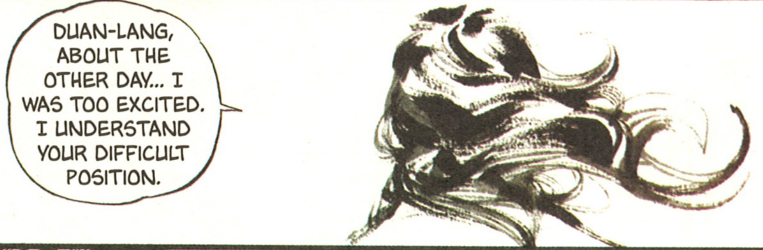

THERE IS ONLY DEATH AT THE END OF THIS ROAD. THERE IS NO RETURN ...

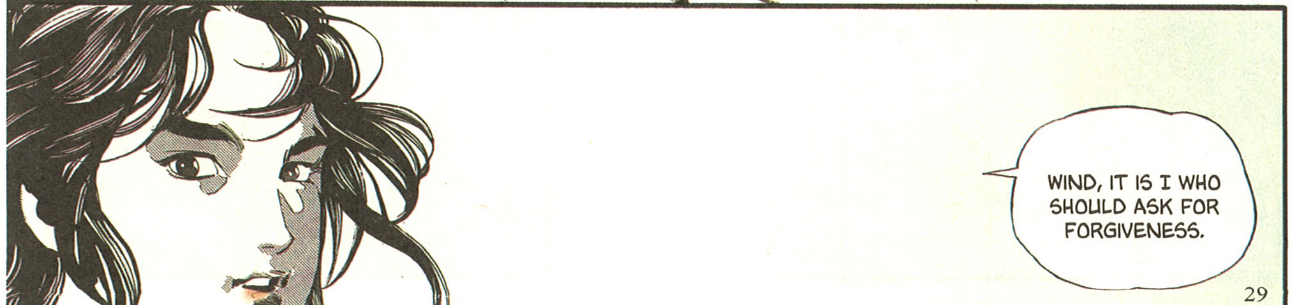

YAHHH!
WITH WIND'S HEART SET FREE OF ITS SHACKLES AND A HAPPY LOOK ON HIS FACE, HE HURRIES TO LIN-YIN CAVE...
NEXT TO THE MOUTH OF THE CAVE, THERE ARE TWO STONE TABLETS, THE GRAVES OF MASTER DUAN AND MASTER NIE.
先父斷帥之墓
AT THE TIME THAT MASTER NIE WAS BURIED AT LIN-YIN CAVE, THE CAUSE OF HIS DEATH WAS NOT CLEAR. DURING THE LAST TWELVE YEARS, WIND HAS BEEN UNABLE TO INVESTIGATE IT HIMSELF, THOUGH IT'S BEEN CONSTANTLY ON HIS MIND (SEE PREVIOUS STORM RIDERS CHAPTER I FOR FOR DETAILS).
THIS DAY IS THE ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR FATHERS' DEATHS. WITHOUT PRIOR ARRANGEMENT, DUAN-LANG AND WIND ARRIVE AT THE SAME TIME TO MOURN.

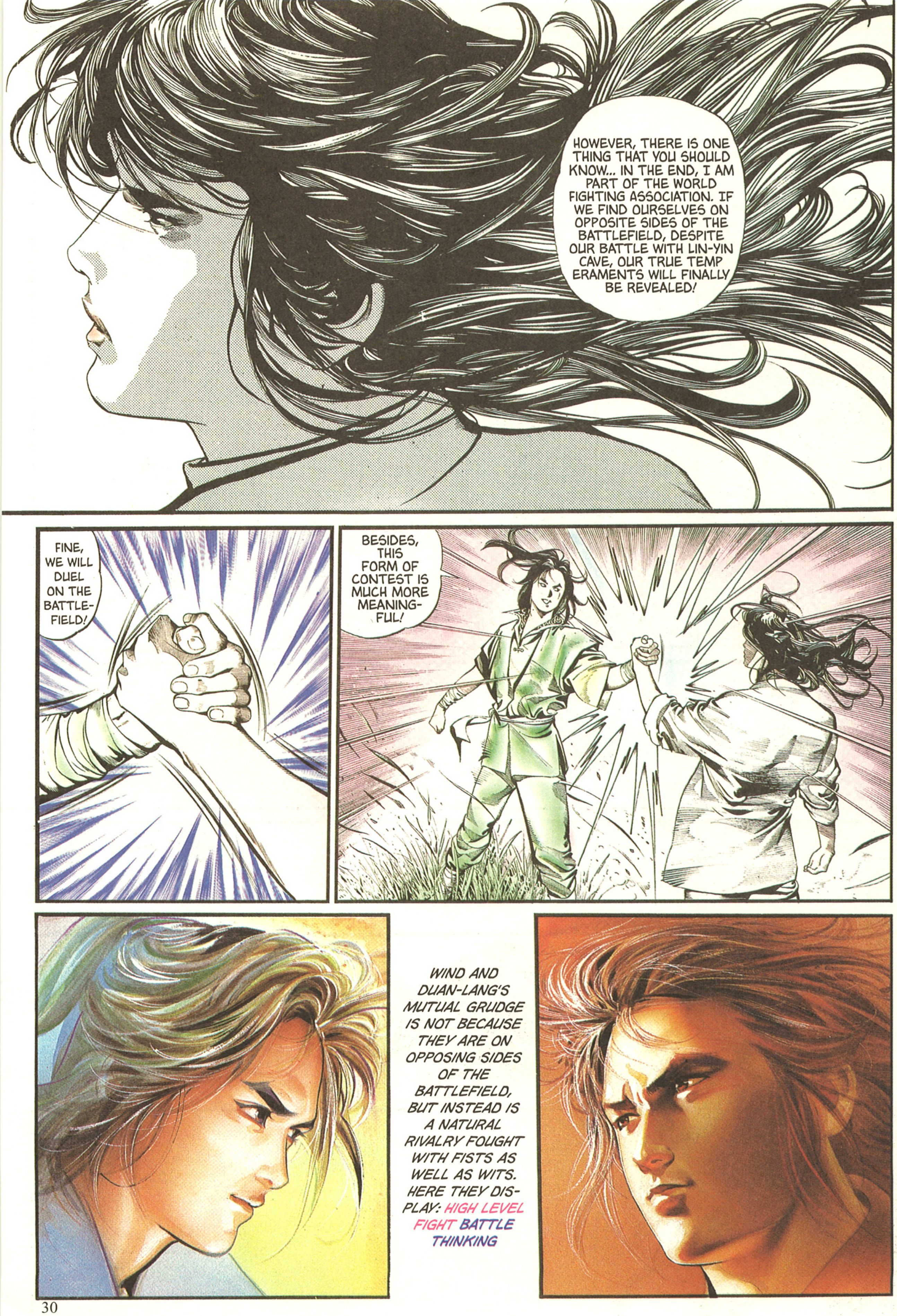

FATHER, WIND AND I FOUGHT IN FRONT OF YOUR GRAVES THREE YEARS EARLIER, AND THIS CAUSED OUR FIGHTING SKILLS TO GREATLY IMPROVE. REGARDLESS OF HOW POWERFUL THE CULPRIT IS, WE SWEAR THAT WE WILL KILL HIM WITH OUR OWN HANDS, SO THAT YOUR SPIRIT AND UNCLE'S SPIRIT CAN REST IN PEACE IN HEAVEN!

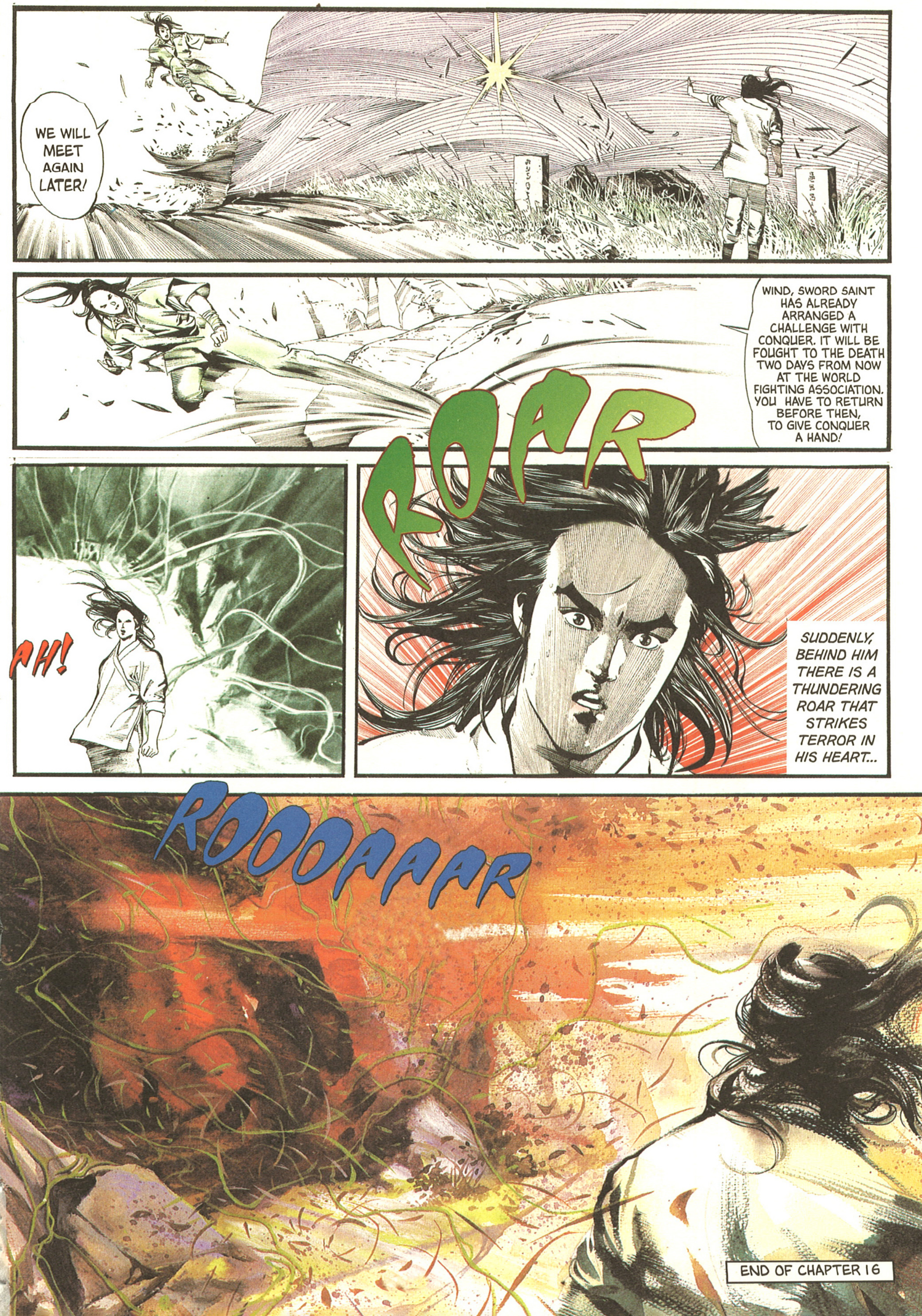




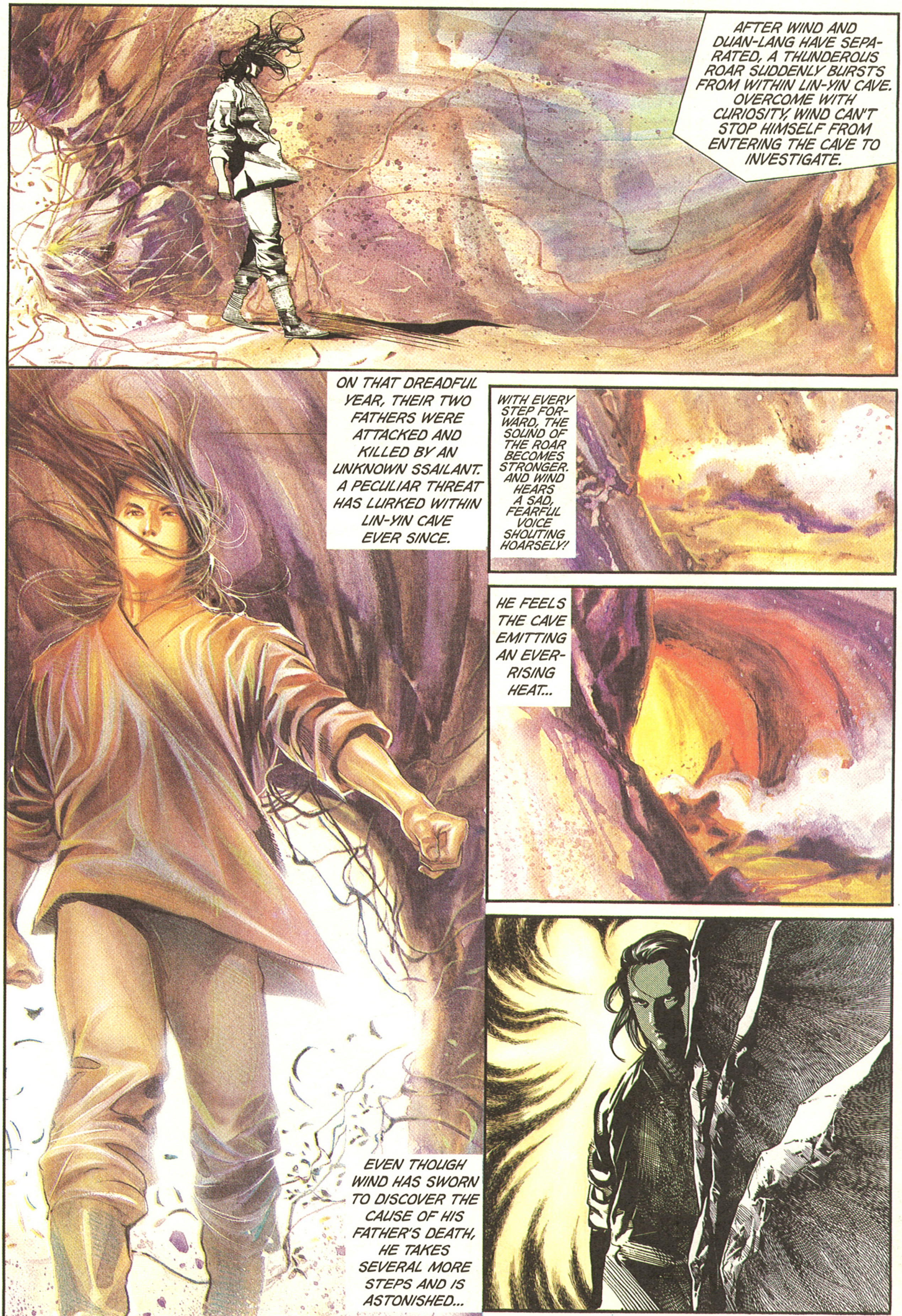

DUAN-LANG, ABOUT THE OTHER DAY... I WAS TOO EXCITED. I UNDERSTAND YOUR DIFFICULT POSITION.

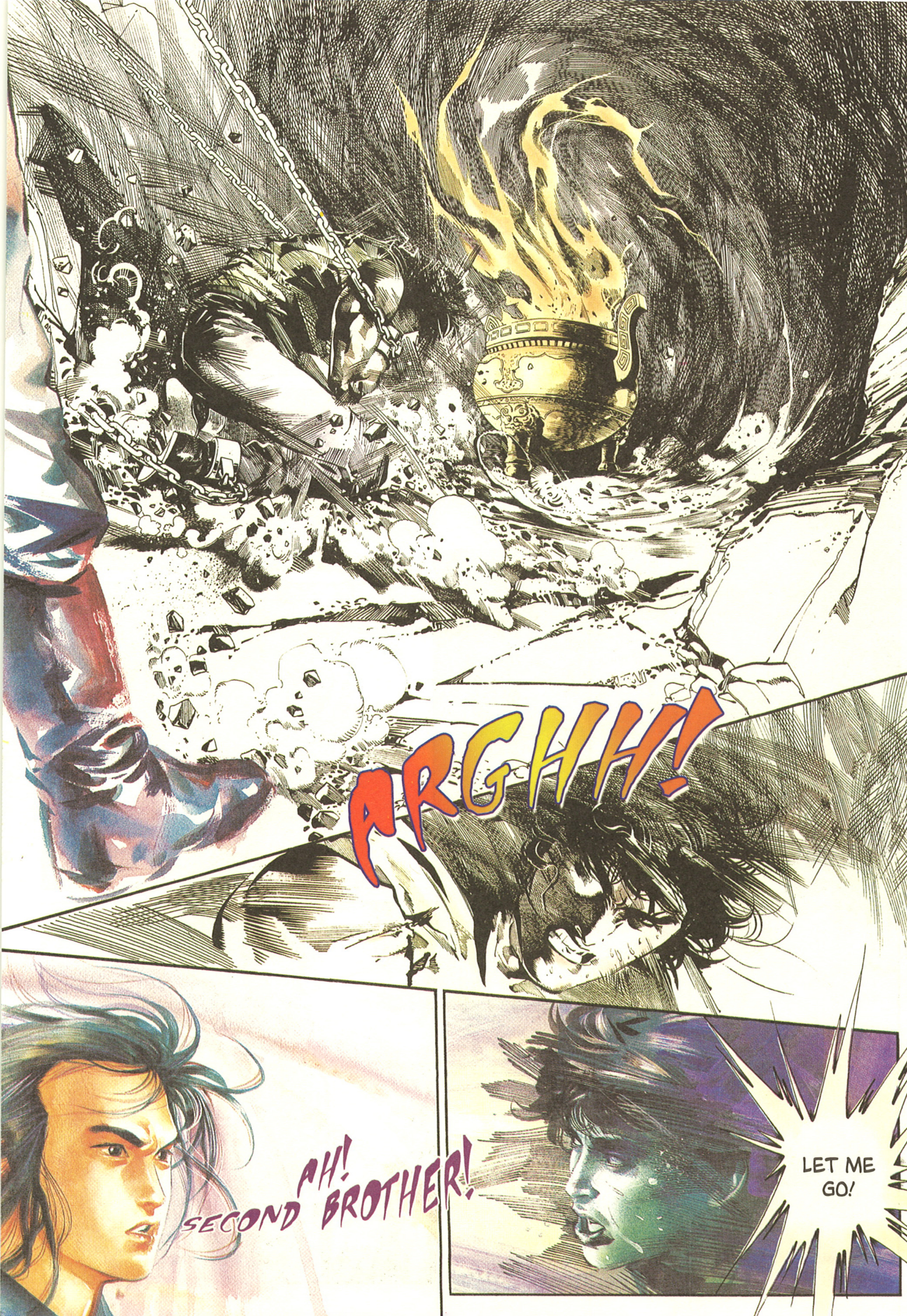

WIND, IT IS I WHO SHOULD ASK FOR FORGIVENESS.

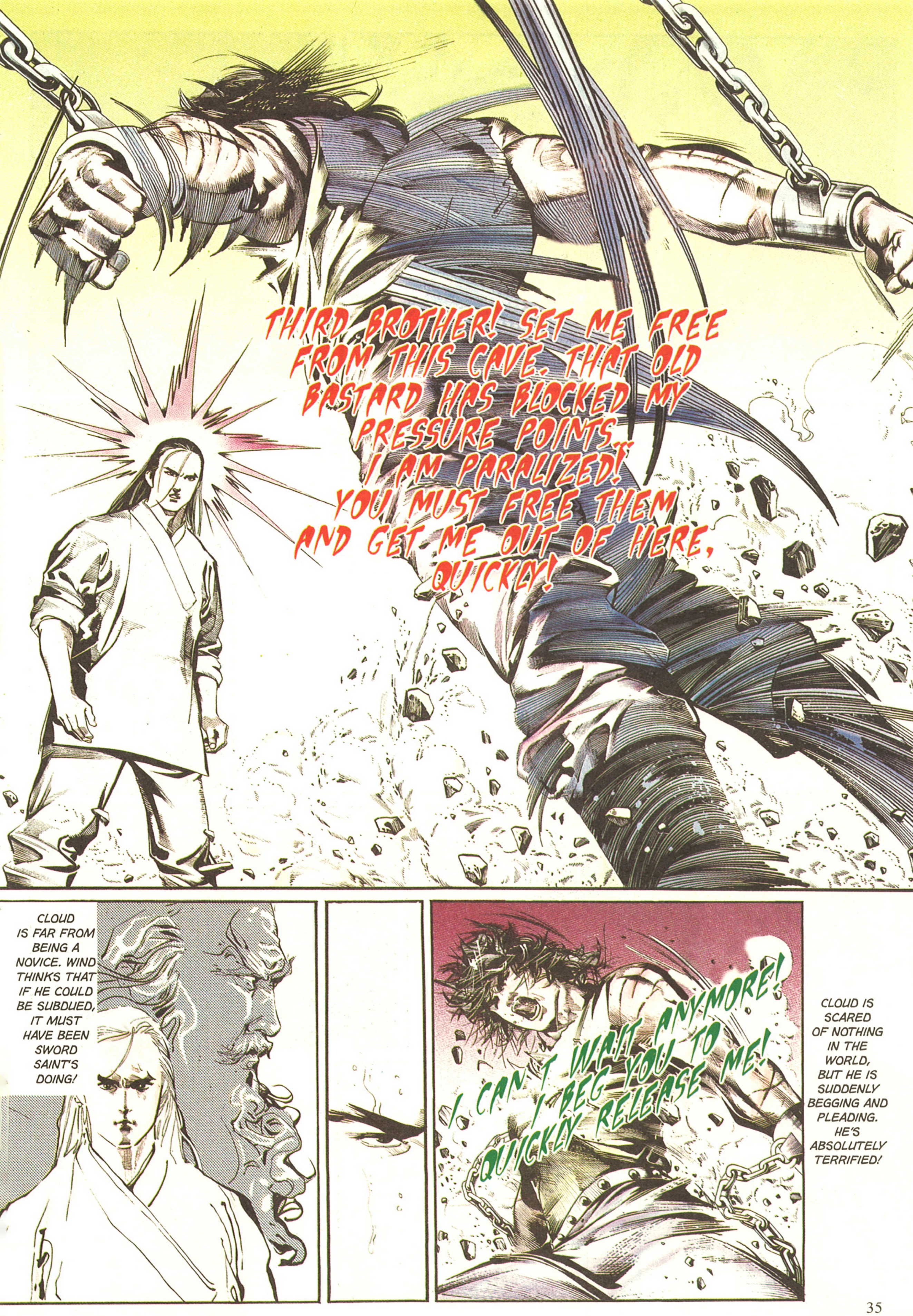

HOWEVER, THERE IS ONE THING THAT YOU SHOULD KNOW... IN THE END, I AM PART OF THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION. IF WE FIND OURSELVES ON OPPOSITE SIDES OF THE BATTLEFIELD, DESPITE OUR BATTLE WITH LIN-YIN CAVE, OUR TRUE TEMPERAMENTS WILL FINALLY BE REVEALED!
FINE, WE WILL DUEL ON THE BATTLEFIELD!
BESIDES, THIS FORM OF CONTEST IS MUCH MORE MEANINGFUL!
WIND AND DUAN-LANG'S MUTUAL GRUDGE IS NOT BECAUSE THEY ARE ON OPPOSING SIDES OF THE BATTLEFIELD, BUT INSTEAD IS A NATURAL RIVALRY FOUGHT WITH FISTS AS WELL AS WITS. HERE THEY DISPLAY: HIGH LEVEL FIGHT BATTLE THINKING

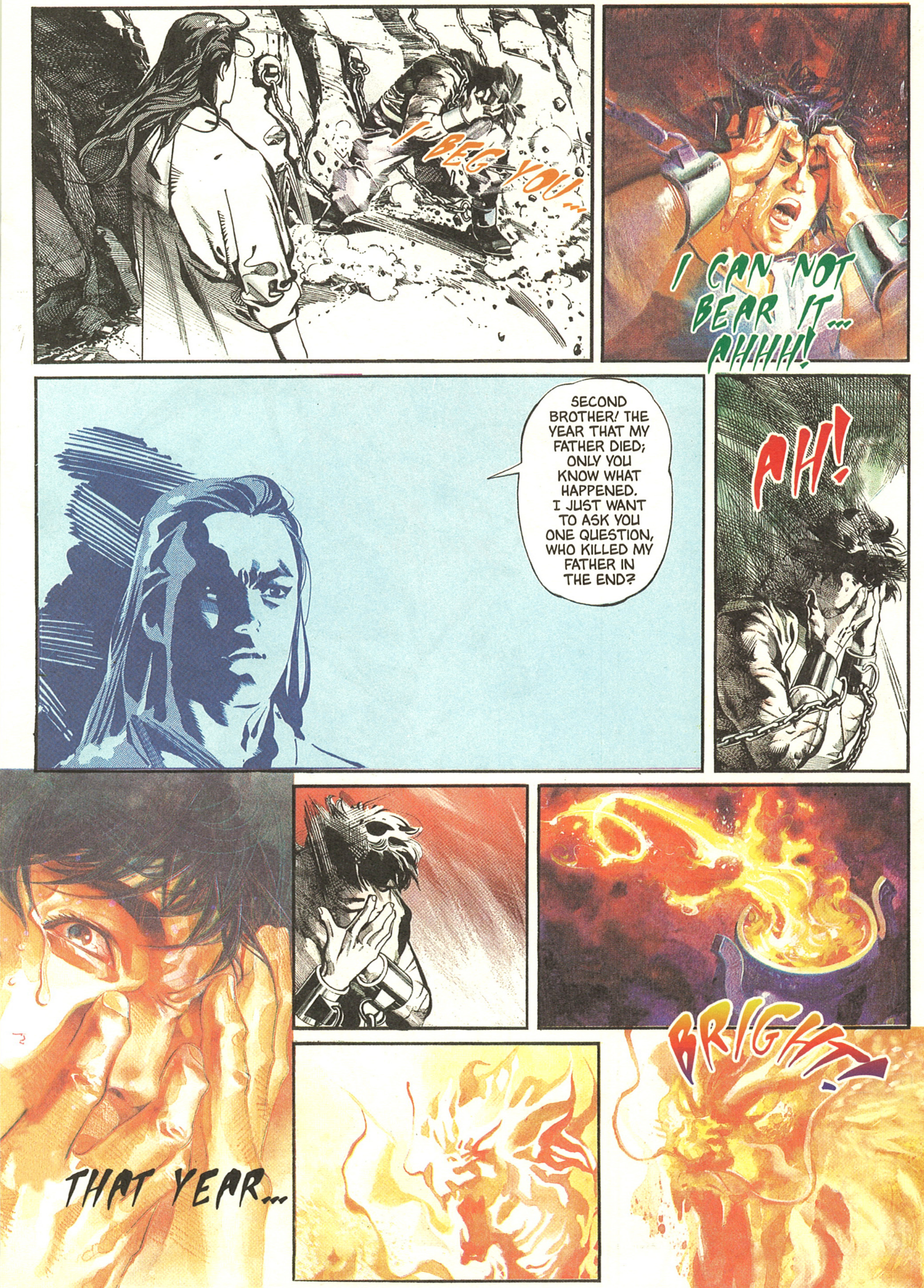

WE WILL MEET AGAIN LATER!
WIND, SWORD SAINT HAS ALREADY ARRANGED A CHALLENGE WITH CONQUER. IT WILL BE FOUGHT TO THE DEATH TWO DAYS FROM NOW AT THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION. YOU HAVE TO RETURN BEFORE THEN, TO GIVE CONQUER A HAND!
ROAR
AH!
SUDDENLY, BEHIND HIM THERE IS A THUNDERING ROAR THAT STRIKES TERROR IN HIS HEART...
ROOOAAAR
END OF CHAPTER 16

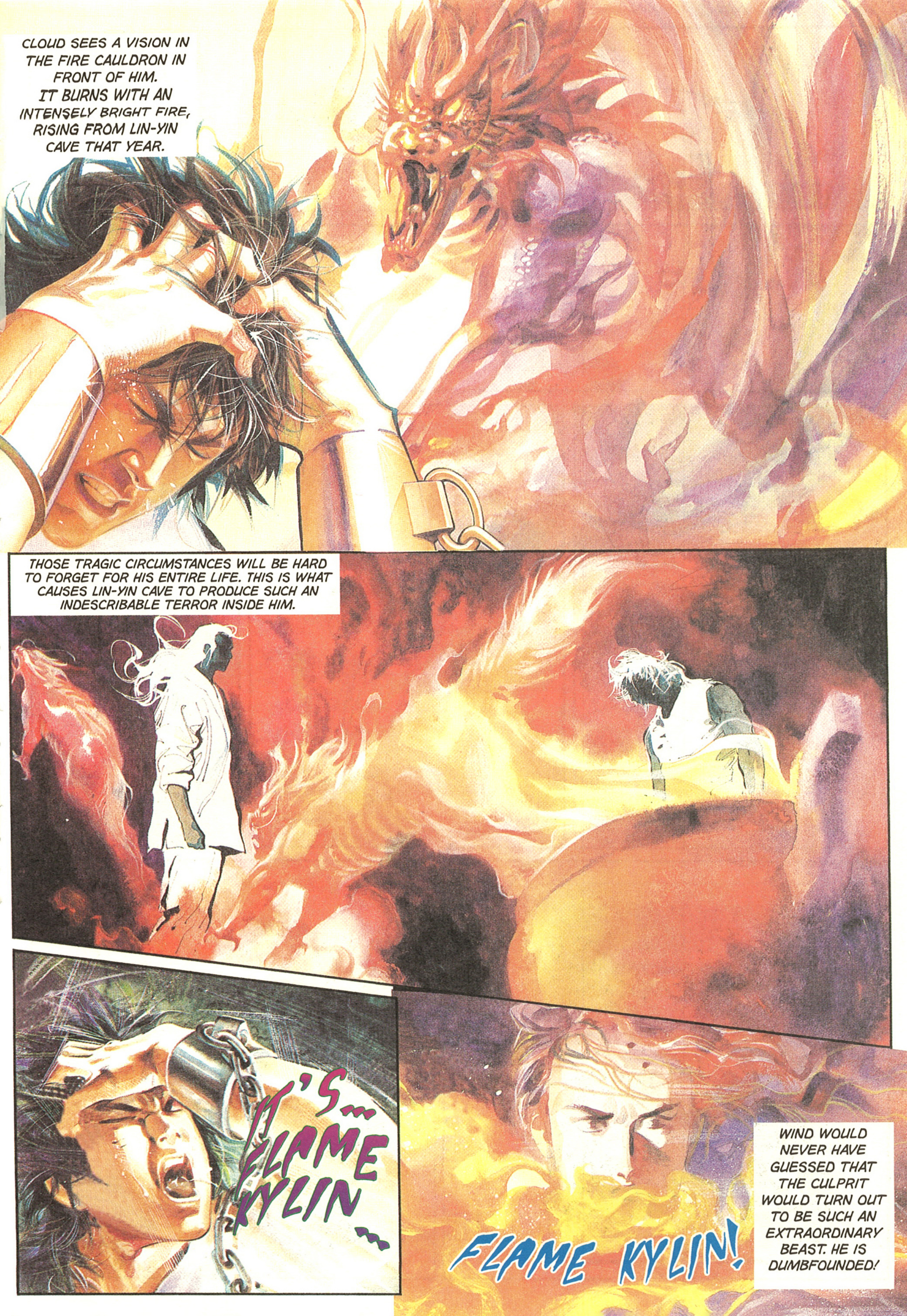
Chapter 17: The Mystery Of Lin-Yin Cave

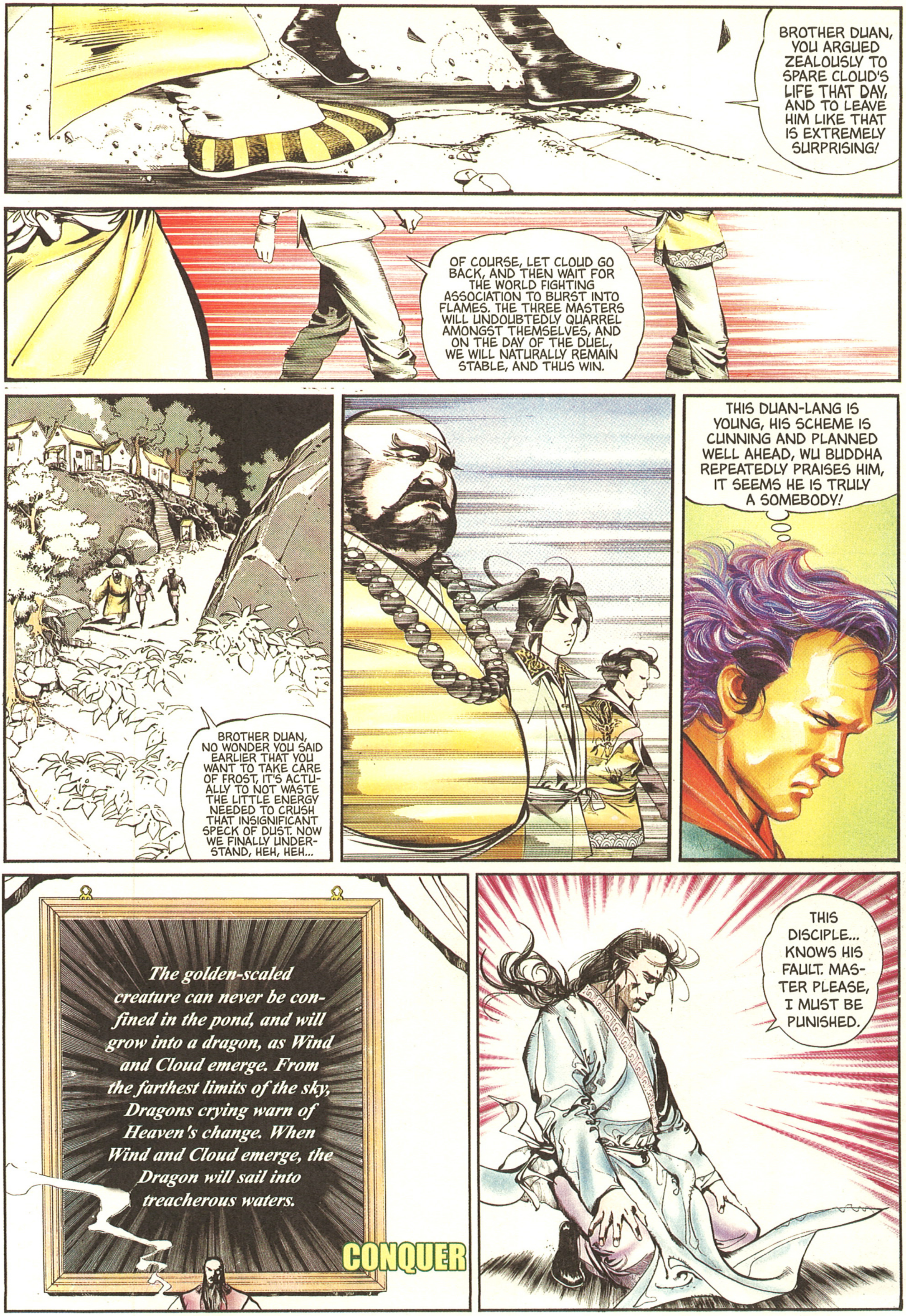

AFTER WIND AND DUAN-LANG HAVE SEPARATED, A THUNDEROUS ROAR SUDDENLY BURSTS FROM WITHIN LIN-YIN CAVE. OVERCOME WITH CURIOSITY, WIND CAN'T STOP HIMSELF FROM ENTERING THE CAVE TO INVESTIGATE.
ON THAT DREADFUL YEAR, THEIR TWO FATHERS WERE ATTACKED AND KILLED BY AN UNKNOWN SSAILANT. A PECULIAR THREAT HAS LURKED WITHIN LIN-YIN CAVE EVER SINCE.
WITH EVERY STEP FORWARD, THE SOUND OF THE ROAR BECOMES STRONGER. AND WIND HEARS A SAD, FEARFUL VOICE SHOUTING HOARSELY!
HE FEELS THE CAVE EMITTING AN EVER-RISING HEAT...
EVEN THOUGH WIND HAS SWORN TO DISCOVER THE CAUSE OF HIS FATHER'S DEATH, HE TAKES SEVERAL MORE STEPS AND IS ASTONISHED...

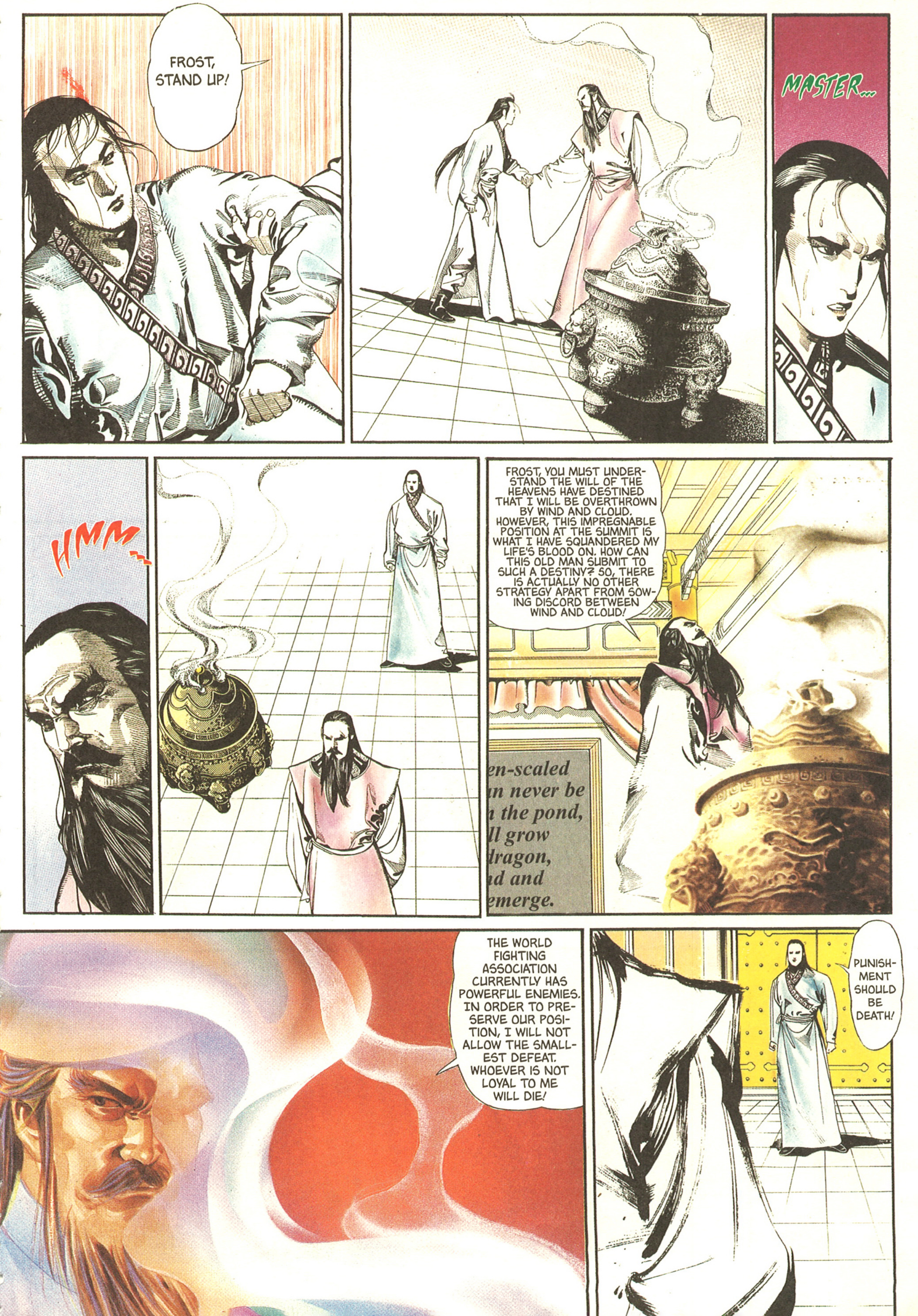

ARGHH!
AH! SECOND BROTHER!
LET ME GO!

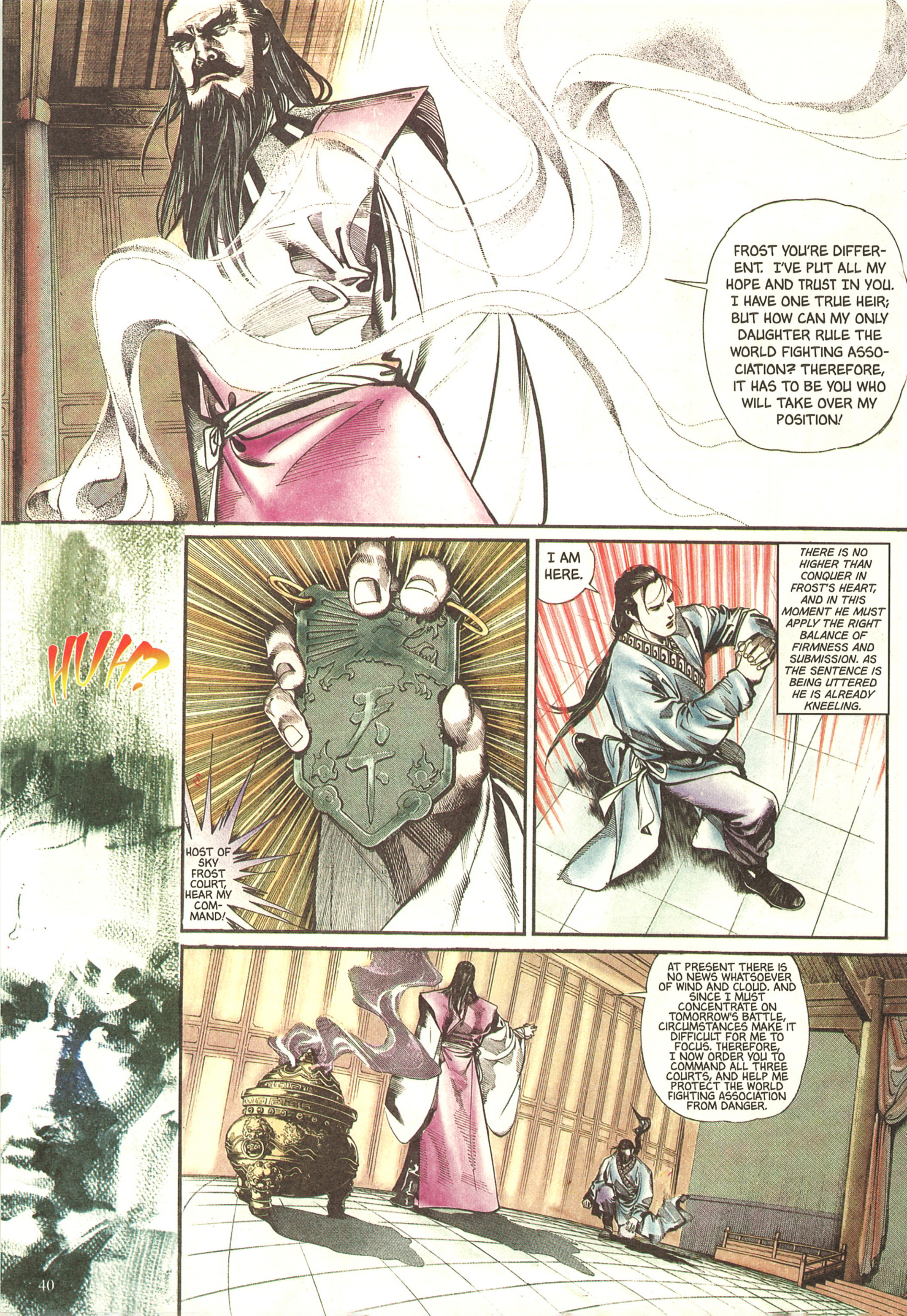

THIRD BROTHER! SET ME FREE FROM THIS CAVE. THAT OLD BASTARD HAS BLOCKED MY PRESSURE POINTS... I AM PARALIZED! YOU MUST FREE THEM AND GET ME OUT OF HERE, QUICKLY!
CLOUD IS FAR FROM BEING A NOVICE. WIND THINKS THAT IF HE COULD BE SUBDUED, IT MUST HAVE BEEN SWORD SAINT'S DOING!
I CAN'T WAIT ANYMORE! I BEG YOU TO QUICKLY RELEASE ME!
CLOUD IS SCARED OF NOTHING IN THE WORLD, BUT HE IS SUDDENLY BEGGING AND PLEADING. HE'S ABSOLUTELY TERRIFIED!

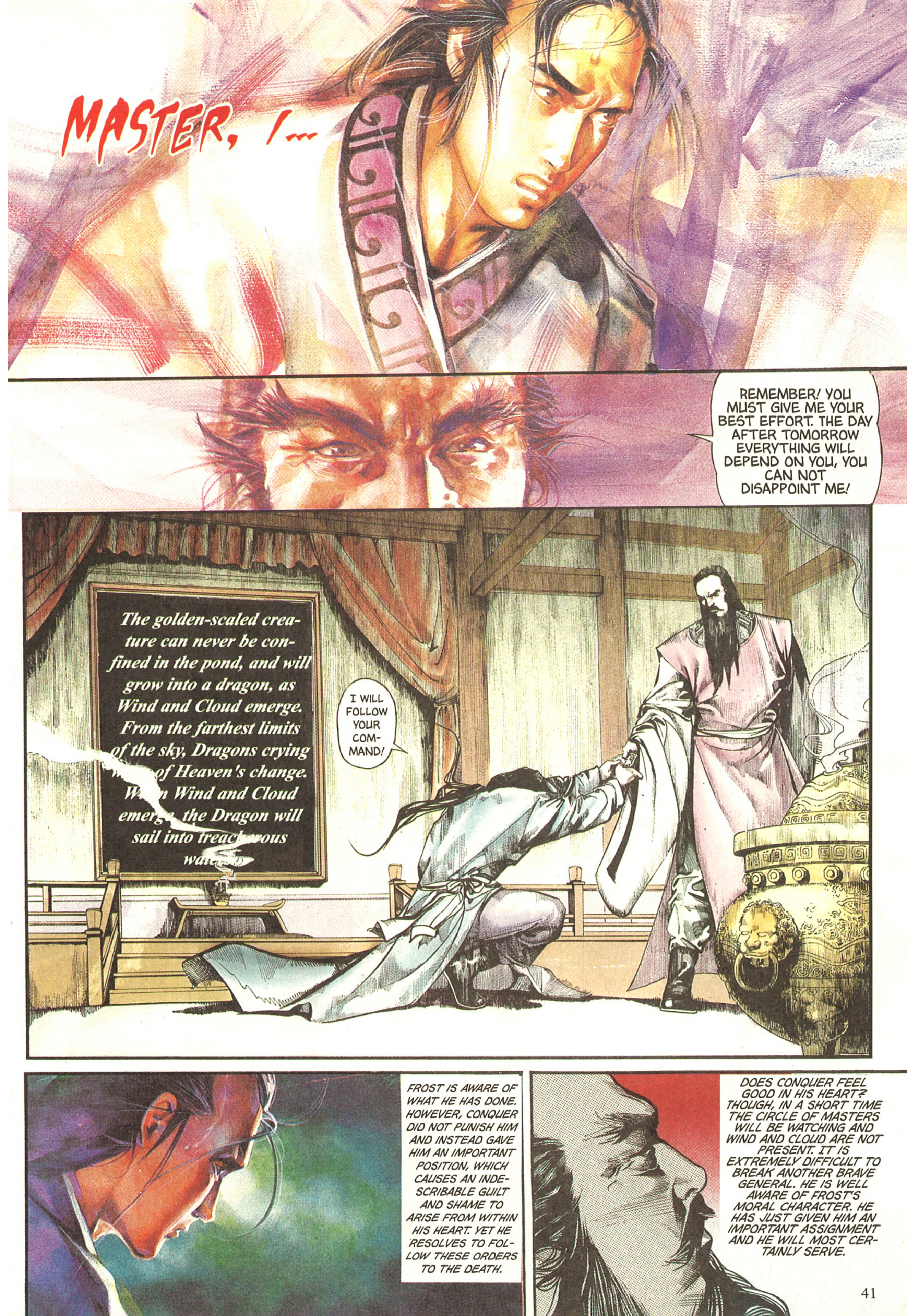

I BEG YOU...
I CAN NOT BEAR IT... AHHH!
SECOND BROTHER! THE YEAR THAT MY FATHER DIED; ONLY YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED. I JUST WANT TO ASK YOU ONE QUESTION, WHO KILLED MY FATHER IN THE END?
AH!
THAT YEAR...
BRIGHT!

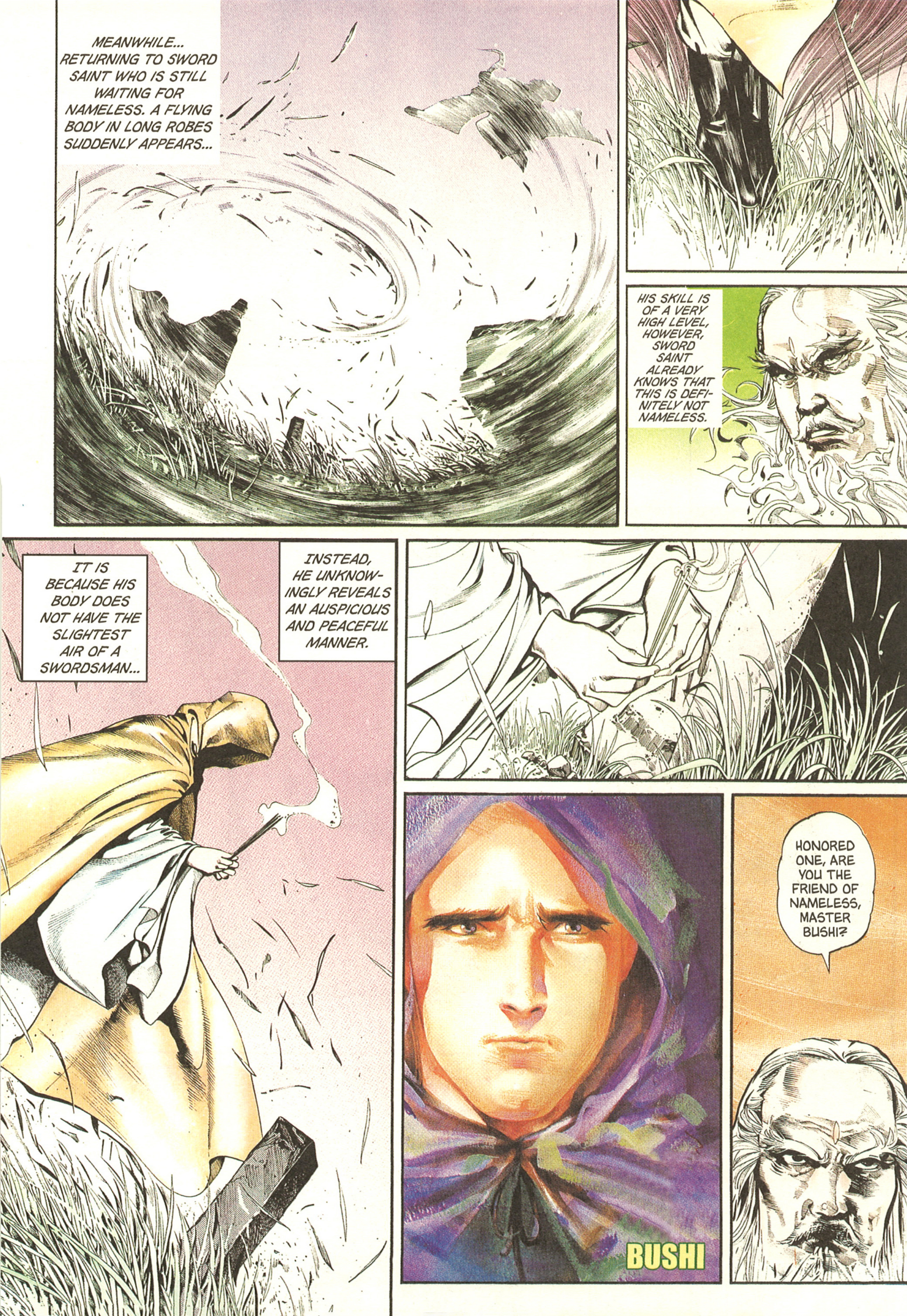

CLOUD SEES A VISION IN THE FIRE CAULDRON IN FRONT OF HIM. IT BURNS WITH AN INTENSELY BRIGHT FIRE, RISING FROM LIN-YIN CAVE THAT YEAR.
THOSE TRAGIC CIRCUMSTANCES WILL BE HARD TO FORGET FOR HIS ENTIRE LIFE. THIS IS WHAT CAUSES LIN-YIN CAVE TO PRODUCE SUCH AN INDESCRIBABLE TERROR INSIDE HIM.
IT'S... FLAME KYLIN...
FLAME KYLIN!
WIND WOULD NEVER HAVE GUESSED THAT THE CULPRIT WOULD TURN OUT TO BE SUCH AN EXTRAORDINARY BEAST. HE IS DUMBFOUNDED!

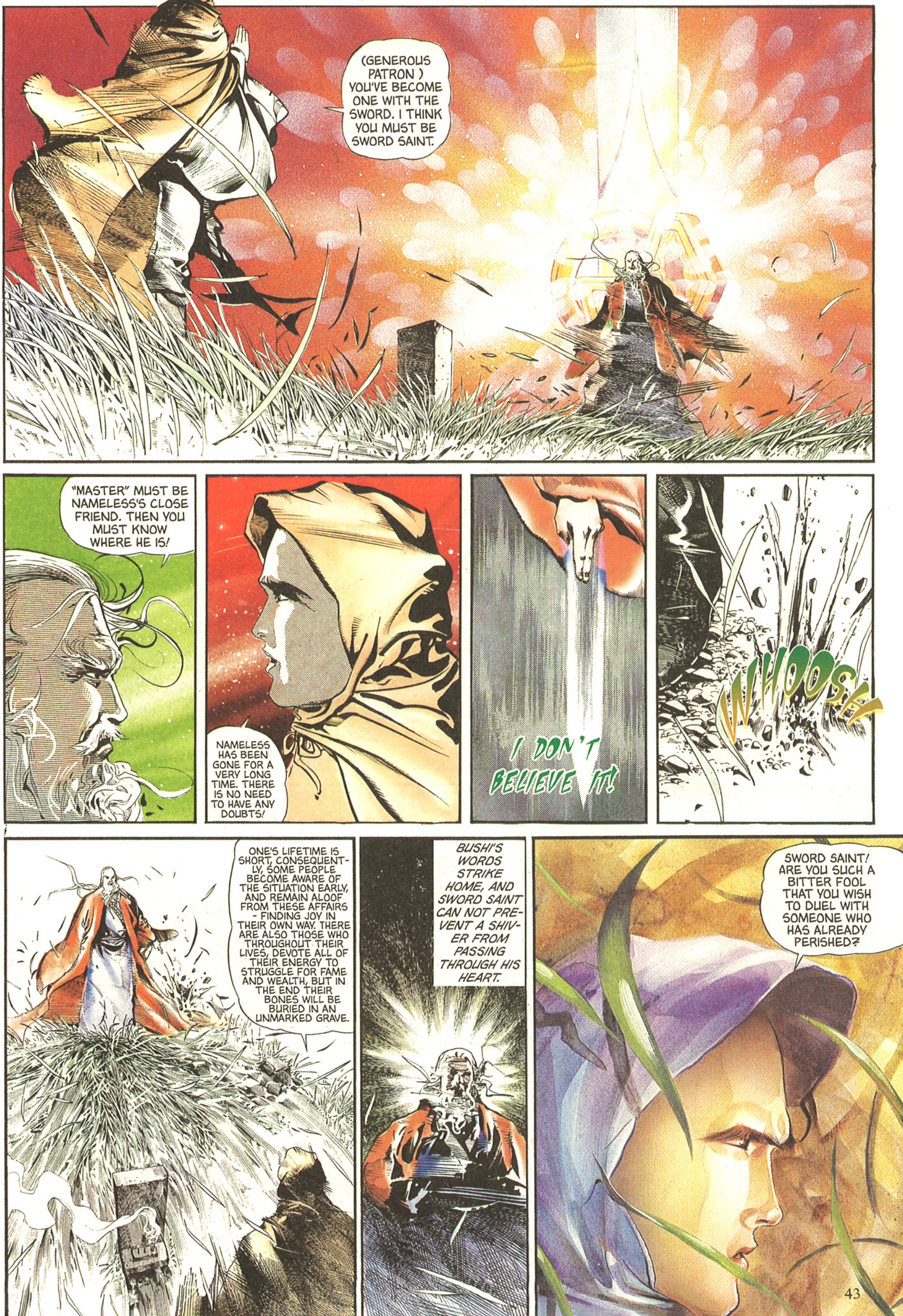

BROTHER DUAN, YOU ARGUED ZEALOUSLY TO SPARE CLOUD'S LIFE THAT DAY, AND TO LEAVE HIM LIKE THAT IS EXTREMELY SURPRISING!
OF COURSE, LET CLOUD GO BACK, AND THEN WAIT FOR THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION TO BURST INTO FLAMES. THE THREE MASTERS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY QUARREL AMONGST THEMSELVES, AND ON THE DAY OF THE DUEL, WE WILL NATURALLY REMAIN STABLE, AND THUS WIN.
BROTHER DUAN, NO WONDER YOU SAID EARLIER THAT YOU WANT TO TAKE CARE OF FROST, IT'S ACTUALLY TO NOT WASTE THE LITTLE ENERGY NEEDED TO CRUSH THAT INSIGNIFICANT SPECK OF DUST. NOW WE FINALLY UNDERSTAND, HEH, HEH...
THIS DUAN-LANG IS YOUNG, HIS SCHEME IS CUNNING AND PLANNED WELL AHEAD, WU BUDDHA REPEATEDLY PRAISES HIM, IT SEEMS HE IS TRULY A SOMEBODY!
The golden-scaled creature can never be confined in the pond, and will grow into a dragon, as Wind and Cloud emerge. From the farthest limits of the sky, Dragons crying warn of Heaven's change. When Wind and Cloud emerge, the Dragon will sail into treacherous waters.
CONQUER
THIS DISCIPLE... KNOWS HIS FAULT. MASTER PLEASE, I MUST BE PUNISHED.

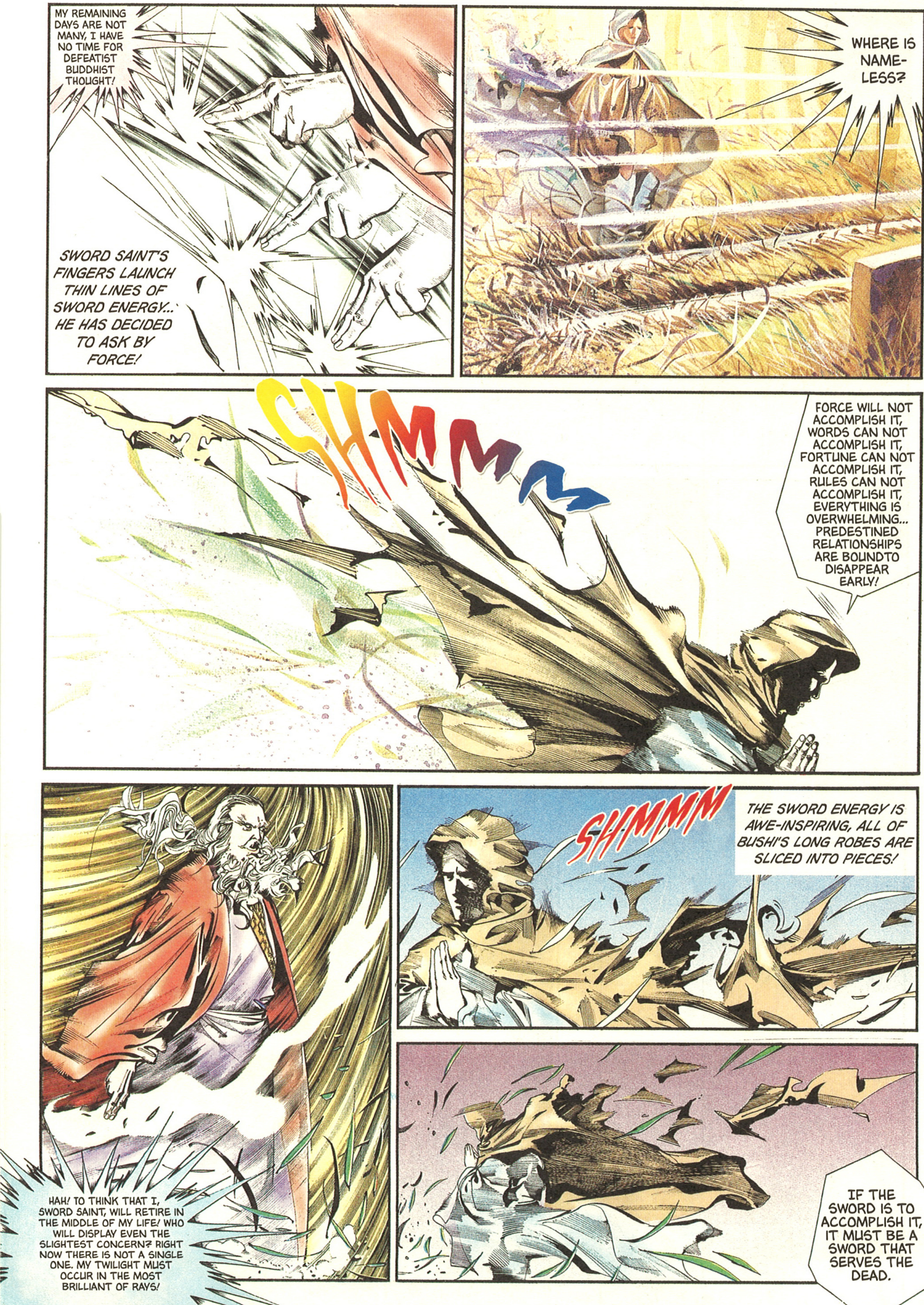

FROST, STAND UP!
MASTER...
HMM...
FROST, YOU MUST UNDERSTAND THE WILL OF THE HEAVENS HAVE DESTINED THAT I WILL BE OVERTHROWN BY WIND AND CLOUD. HOWEVER, THIS IMPREGNABLE POSITION AT THE SUMMIT IS WHAT I HAVE SQUANDERED MY LIFE'S BLOOD ON. HOW CAN THIS OLD MAN SUBMIT TO SUCH A DESTINY? SO, THERE IS ACTUALLY NO OTHER STRATEGY APART FROM SOWING DISCORD BETWEEN WIND AND CLOUD!
en-scaled
n never be
n the pond,
ll grow
dragon,
d and
emerge.
THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION CURRENTLY HAS POWERFUL ENEMIES. IN ORDER TO PRESERVE OUR POSITION, I WILL NOT ALLOW THE SMALLEST DEFEAT. WHOEVER IS NOT LOYAL TO ME WILL DIE!
PUNISHMENT SHOULD BE DEATH!

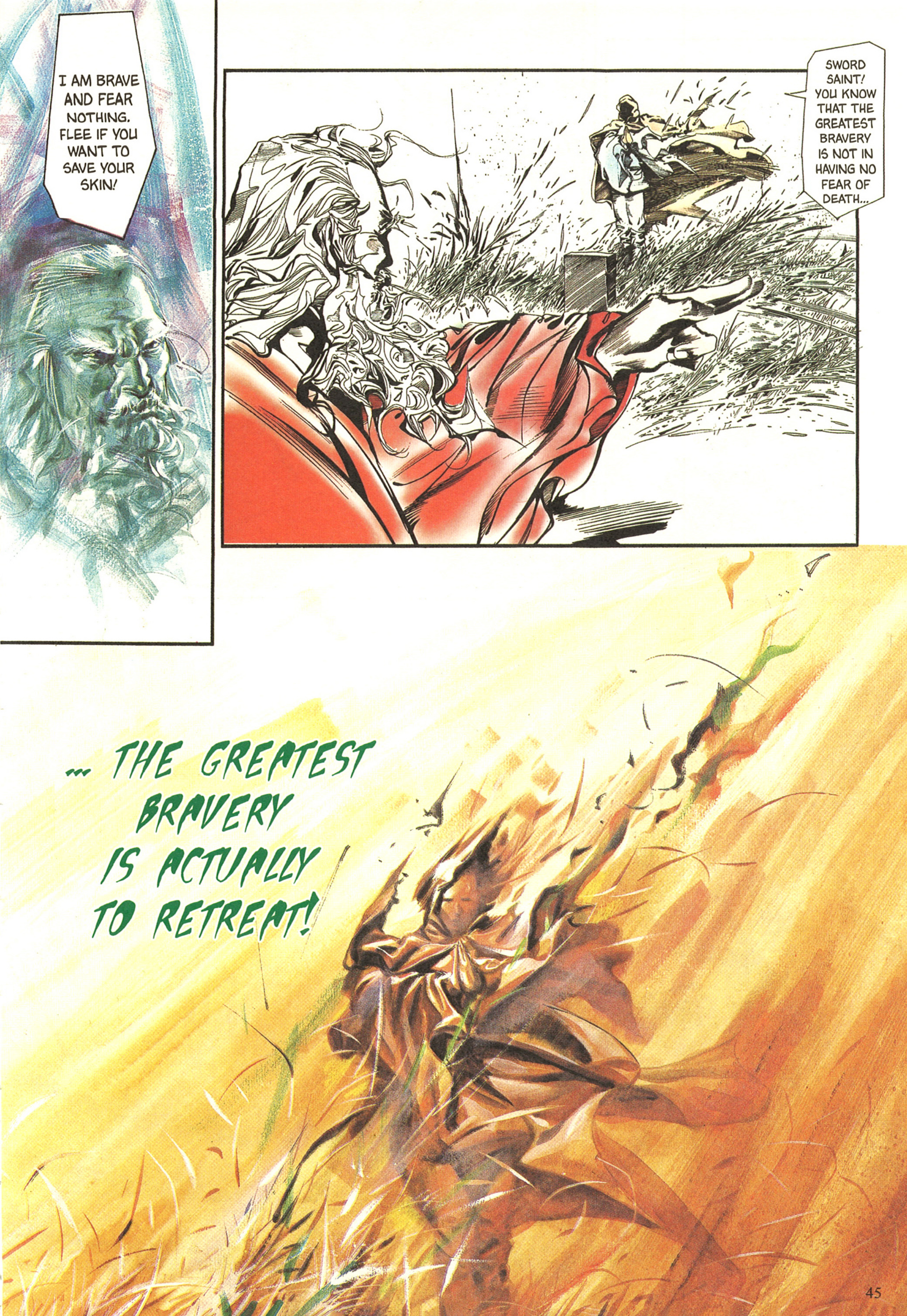

FROST YOU'RE DIFFERENT. I'VE PUT ALL MY HOPE AND TRUST IN YOU. I HAVE ONE TRUE HEIR; BUT HOW CAN MY ONLY DAUGHTER RULE THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION? THEREFORE, IT HAS TO BE YOU WHO WILL TAKE OVER MY POSITION!
HUH?
HOST OF SKY FROST COURT, HEAR MY COMMAND!
I AM HERE.
THERE IS NO HIGHER THAN CONQUER IN FROST'S HEART, AND IN THIS MOMENT HE MUST APPLY THE RIGHT BALANCE OF FIRMNESS AND SUBMISSION. AS THE SENTENCE IS BEING UTTERED HE IS ALREADY KNEELING.
AT PRESENT THERE IS NO NEWS WHATSOEVER OF WIND AND CLOUD. AND SINCE I MUST CONCENTRATE ON TOMORROW'S BATTLE, CIRCUMSTANCES MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR ME TO FOCUS. THEREFORE, I NOW ORDER YOU TO COMMAND ALL THREE COURTS, AND HELP ME PROTECT THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION FROM DANGER.

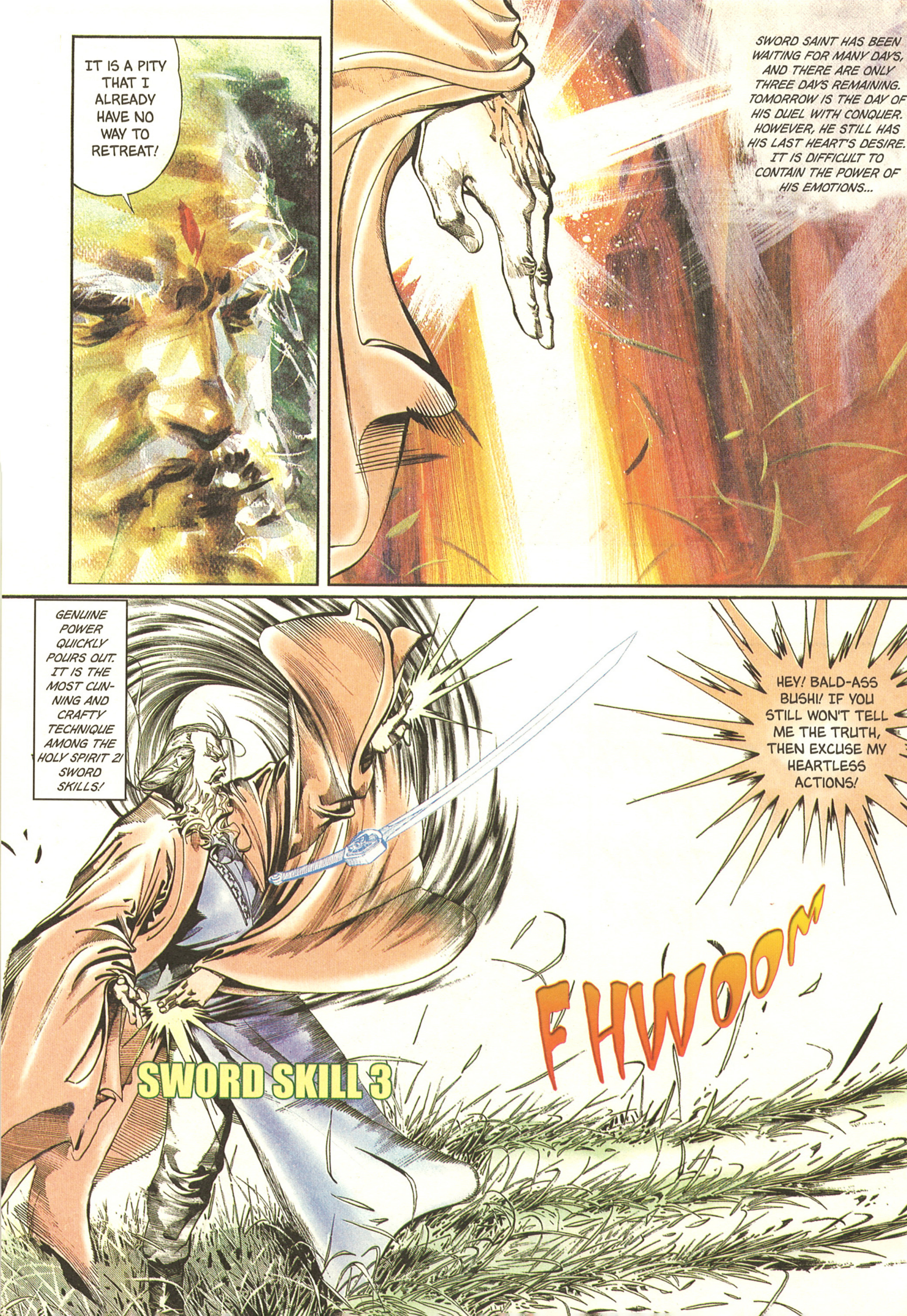

MASTER, I...
REMEMBER! YOU MUST GIVE ME YOUR BEST EFFORT. THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW EVERYTHING WILL DEPEND ON YOU, YOU CAN NOT DISAPPOINT ME!
The golden-scaled creature can never be confined in the pond, and will grow into a dragon, as Wind and Cloud emerge. From the farthest limits of the sky, Dragons crying [illegible] of Heaven's change. When Wind and Cloud emerge, the Dragon will sail into treacherous waters.
I WILL FOLLOW YOUR COMMAND!
FROST IS AWARE OF WHAT HE HAS DONE. HOWEVER, CONQUER DID NOT PUNISH HIM AND INSTEAD GAVE HIM AN IMPORTANT POSITION, WHICH CAUSES AN INDESCRIBABLE GUILT AND SHAME TO ARISE FROM WITHIN HIS HEART. YET HE RESOLVES TO FOLLOW THESE ORDERS TO THE DEATH.
DOES CONQUER FEEL GOOD IN HIS HEART? THOUGH, IN A SHORT TIME THE CIRCLE OF MASTERS WILL BE WATCHING AND WIND AND CLOUD ARE NOT PRESENT. IT IS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO BREAK ANOTHER BRAVE GENERAL. HE IS WELL AWARE OF FROST'S MORAL CHARACTER. HE HAS JUST GIVEN HIM AN IMPORTANT ASSIGNMENT AND HE WILL MOST CERTAINLY SERVE.

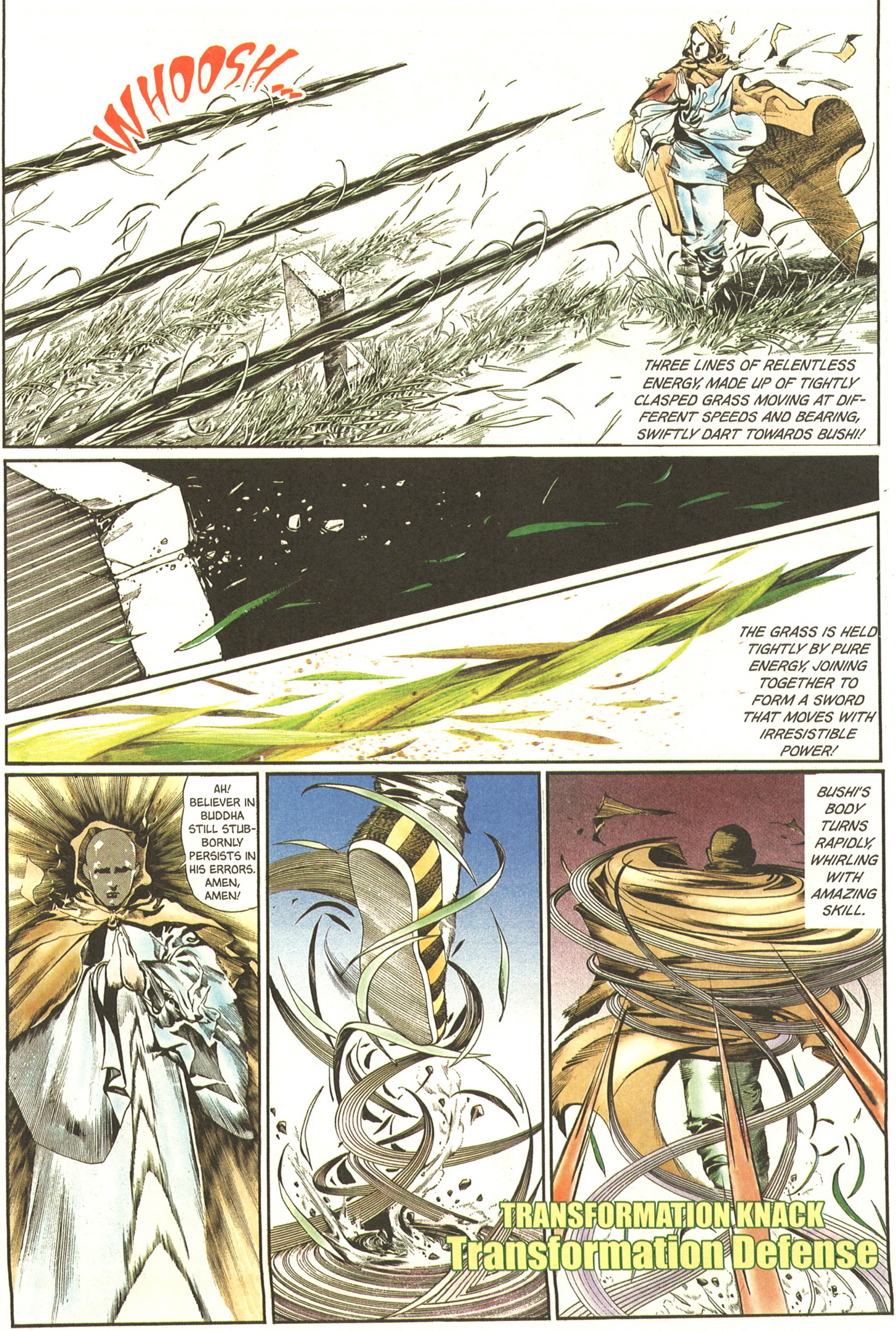

MEANWHILE... RETURNING TO SWORD SAINT WHO IS STILL WAITING FOR NAMELESS. A FLYING BODY IN LONG ROBES SUDDENLY APPEARS...
HIS SKILL IS OF A VERY HIGH LEVEL, HOWEVER, SWORD SAINT ALREADY KNOWS THAT THIS IS DEFINITELY NOT NAMELESS.
IT IS BECAUSE HIS BODY DOES NOT HAVE THE SLIGHTEST AIR OF A SWORDSMAN...
INSTEAD, HE UNKNOWINGLY REVEALS AN AUSPICIOUS AND PEACEFUL MANNER.
BUSHI
HONORED ONE, ARE YOU THE FRIEND OF NAMELESS, MASTER BUSHI?

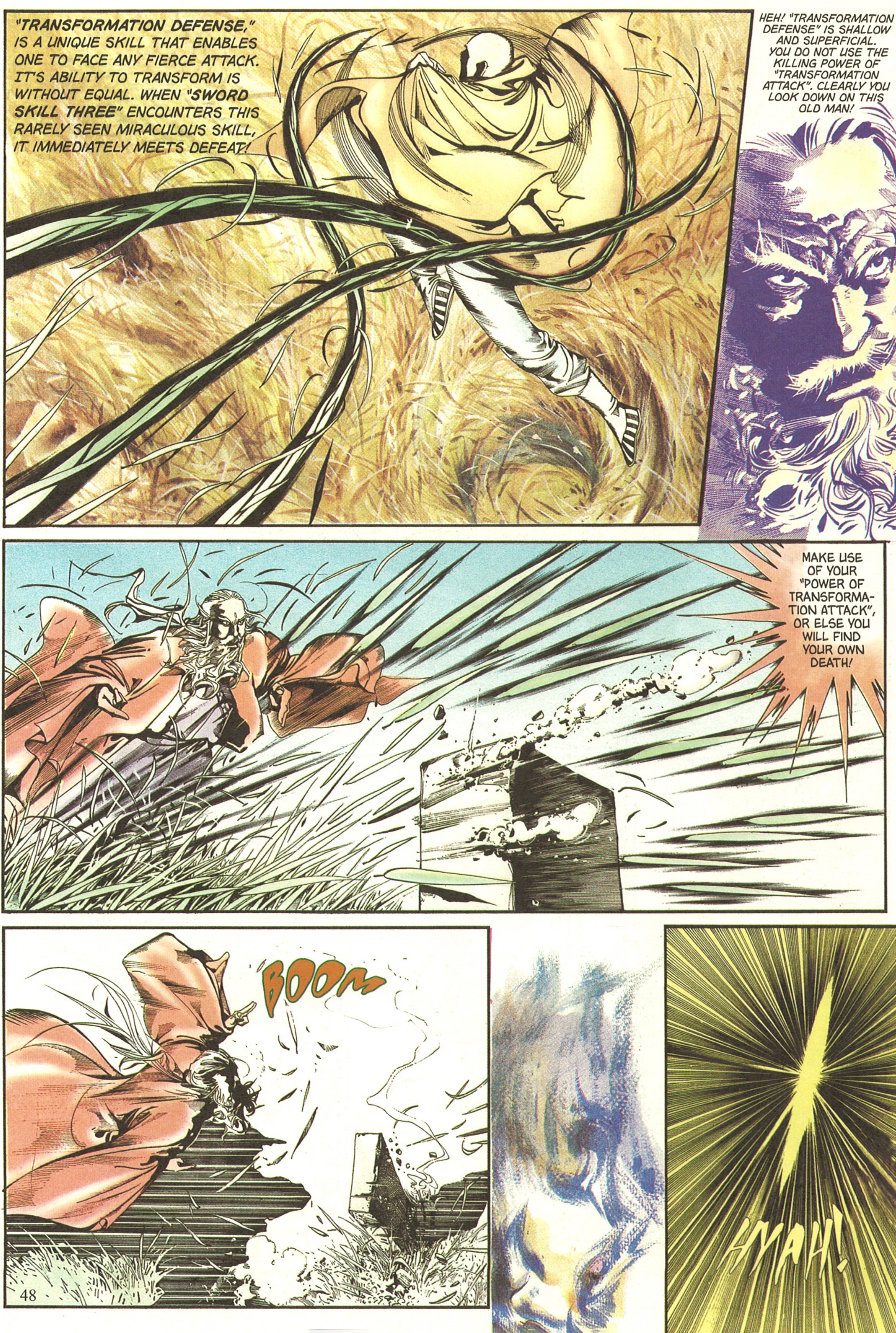

(GENEROUS PATRON) YOU'VE BECOME ONE WITH THE SWORD. I THINK YOU MUST BE SWORD SAINT.
"MASTER" MUST BE NAMELESS'S CLOSE FRIEND. THEN YOU MUST KNOW WHERE HE IS!
NAMELESS HAS BEEN GONE FOR A VERY LONG TIME. THERE IS NO NEED TO HAVE ANY DOUBTS!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
WHOOSH
ONE'S LIFETIME IS SHORT, CONSEQUENTLY, SOME PEOPLE BECOME AWARE OF THE SITUATION EARLY, AND REMAIN ALOOF FROM THESE AFFAIRS - FINDING JOY IN THEIR OWN WAY. THERE ARE ALSO THOSE WHO THROUGHOUT THEIR LIVES, DEVOTE ALL OF THEIR ENERGY TO STRUGGLE FOR FAME AND WEALTH, BUT IN THE END THEIR BONES WILL BE BURIED IN AN UNMARKED GRAVE.
BUSHI'S WORDS STRIKE HOME, AND SWORD SAINT CAN NOT PREVENT A SHIVER FROM PASSING THROUGH HIS HEART.
SWORD SAINT! ARE YOU SUCH A BITTER FOOL THAT YOU WISH TO DUEL WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS ALREADY PERISHED?

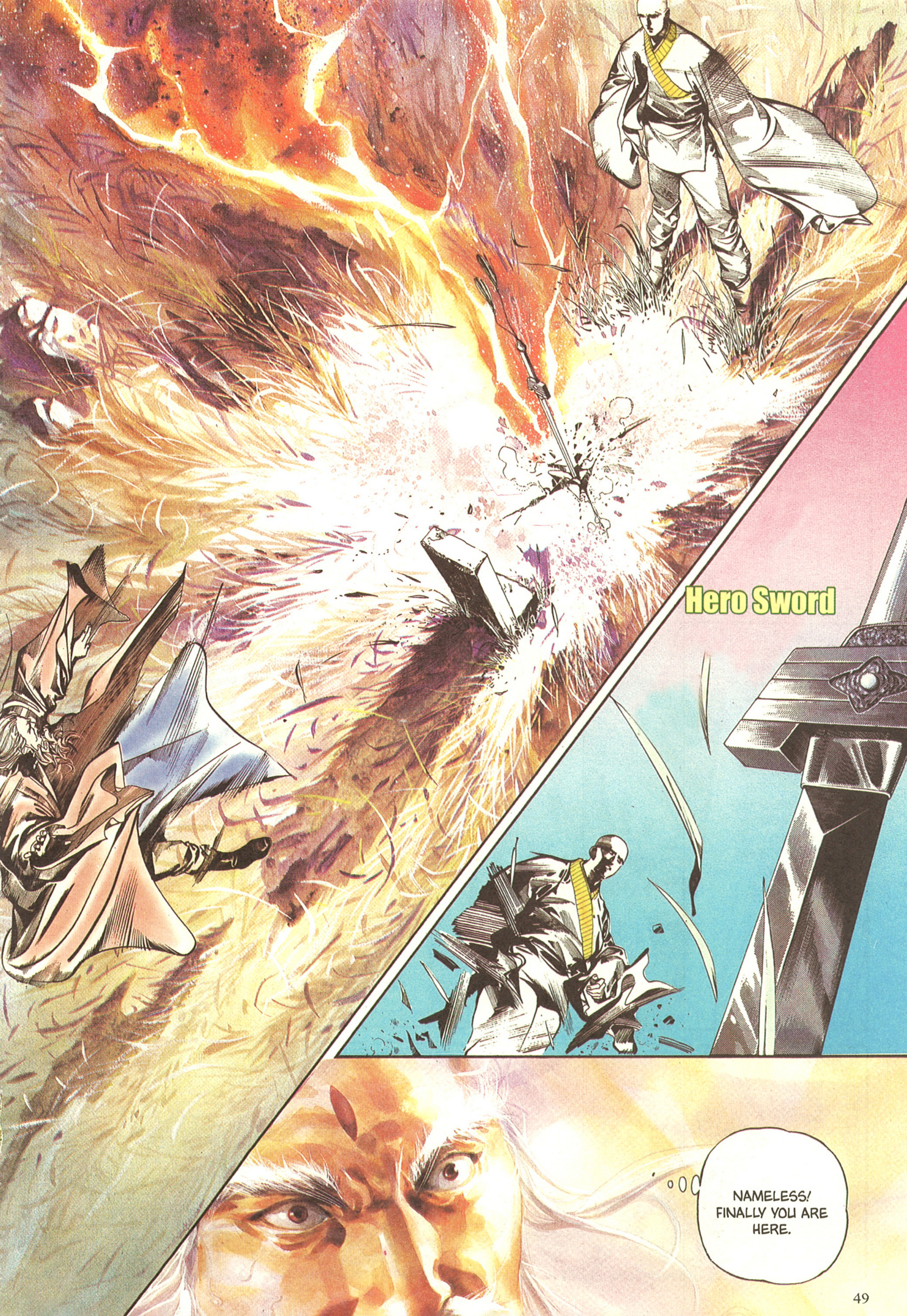

MY REMAINING DAYS ARE NOT MANY, I HAVE NO TIME FOR DEFEATIST BUDDHIST THOUGHT!
SWORD SAINT'S FINGERS LAUNCH THIN LINES OF SWORD ENERGY... HE HAS DECIDED TO ASK BY FORCE!
WHERE IS NAMELESS?
SHMMM
FORCE WILL NOT ACCOMPLISH IT, WORDS CAN NOT ACCOMPLISH IT, FORTUNE CAN NOT ACCOMPLISH IT, RULES CAN NOT ACCOMPLISH IT, EVERYTHING IS OVERWHELMING... PREDESTINED RELATIONSHIPS ARE BOUNDTO DISAPPEAR EARLY!
HAH! TO THINK THAT I, SWORD SAINT, WILL RETIRE IN THE MIDDLE OF MY LIFE! WHO WILL DISPLAY EVEN THE SLIGHTEST CONCERN? RIGHT NOW THERE IS NOT A SINGLE ONE. MY TWILIGHT MUST OCCUR IN THE MOST BRILLIANT OF RAYS!
SHMMM
THE SWORD ENERGY IS AWE-INSPIRING, ALL OF BUSHI'S LONG ROBES ARE SLICED INTO PIECES!
IF THE SWORD IS TO ACCOMPLISH IT, IT MUST BE A SWORD THAT SERVES THE DEAD.

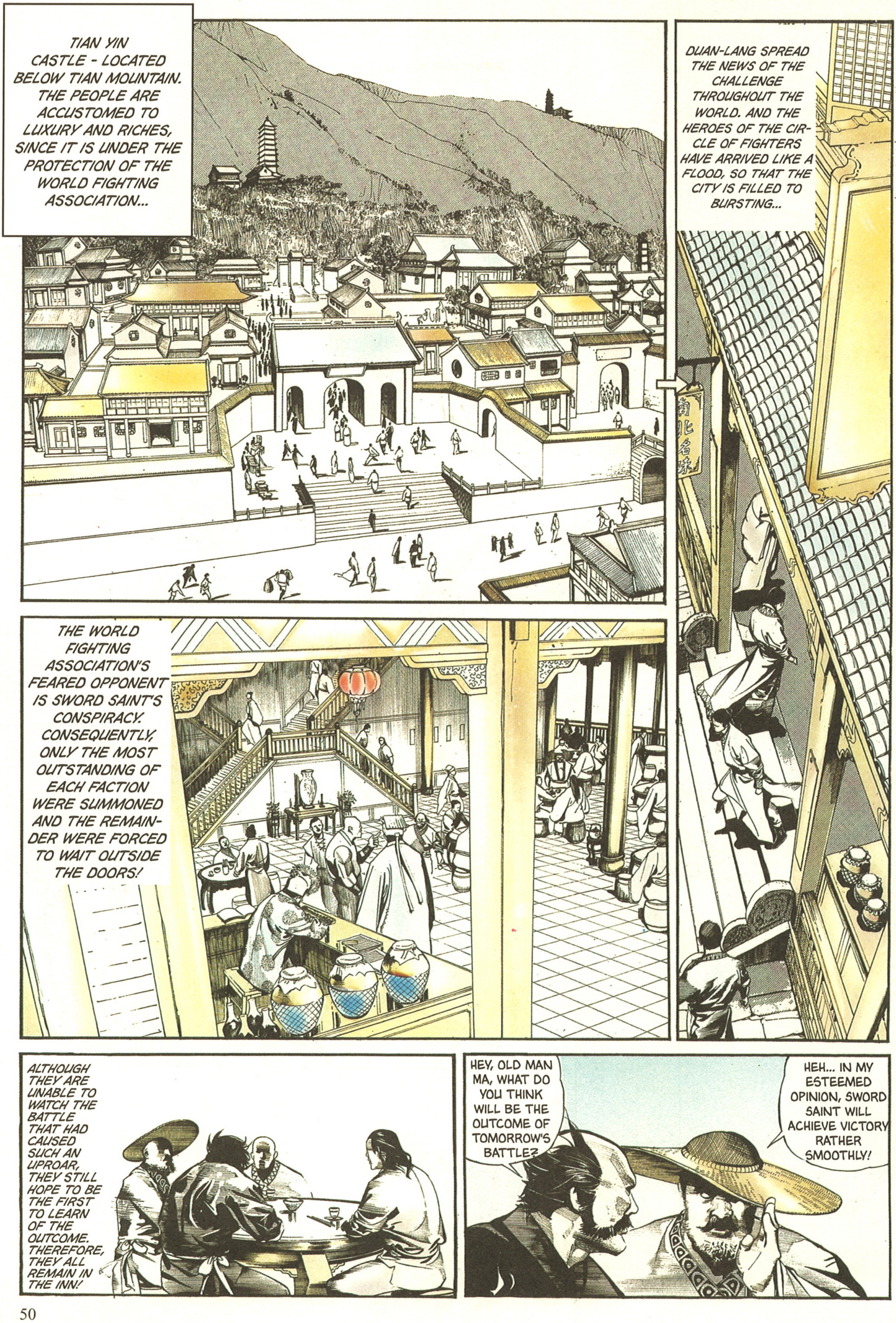

I AM BRAVE AND FEAR NOTHING. FLEE IF YOU WANT TO SAVE YOUR SKIN!
SWORD SAINT! YOU KNOW THAT THE GREATEST BRAVERY IS NOT IN HAVING NO FEAR OF DEATH...
... THE GREATEST BRAVERY IS ACTUALLY TO RETREAT!

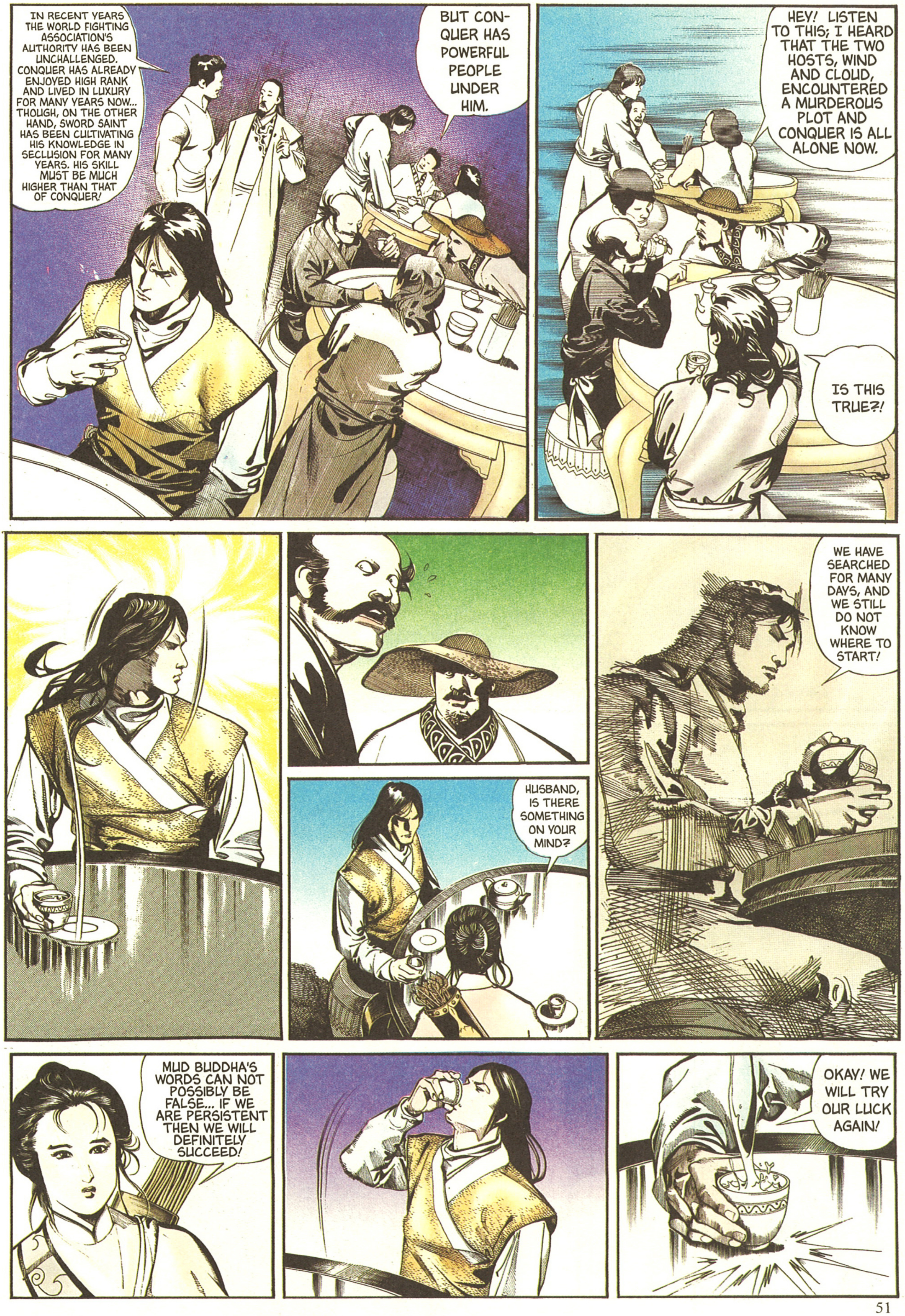

IT IS A PITY THAT I ALREADY HAVE NO WAY TO RETREAT!
SWORD SAINT HAS BEEN WAITING FOR MANY DAYS, AND THERE ARE ONLY THREE DAYS REMAINING. TOMORROW IS THE DAY OF HIS DUEL WITH CONQUER. HOWEVER, HE STILL HAS HIS LAST HEART'S DESIRE. IT IS DIFFICULT TO CONTAIN THE POWER OF HIS EMOTIONS...
GENUINE POWER QUICKLY POURS OUT. IT IS THE MOST CUNNING AND CRAFTY TECHNIQUE AMONG THE HOLY SPIRIT 21 SWORD SKILLS!
HEY! BALD-ASS BUSHI! IF YOU STILL WON'T TELL ME THE TRUTH, THEN EXCUSE MY HEARTLESS ACTIONS!
FHWOOM
SWORD SKILL 3

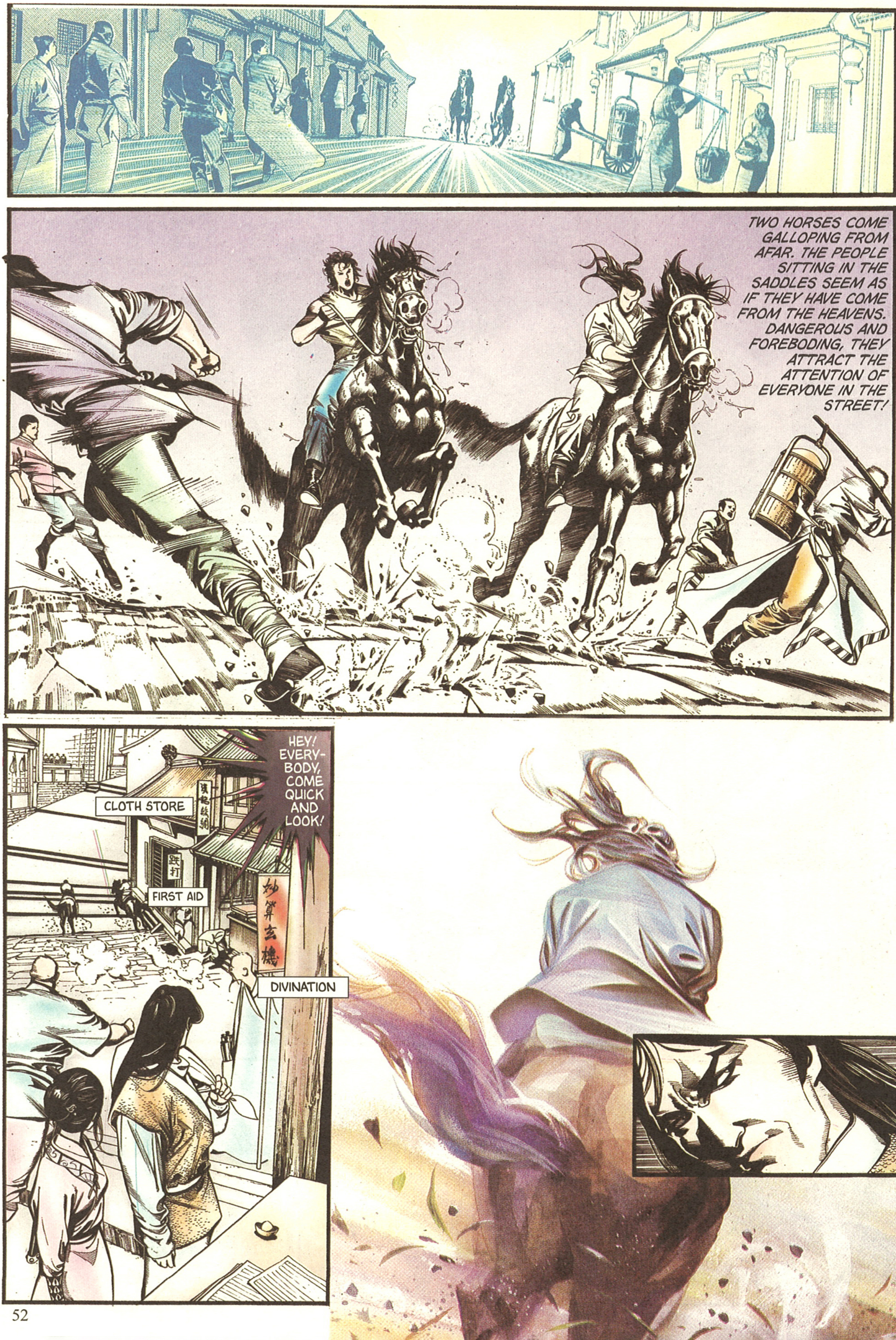

WHOOSH...
THREE LINES OF RELENTLESS ENERGY, MADE UP OF TIGHTLY CLASPED GRASS MOVING AT DIFFERENT SPEEDS AND BEARING, SWIFTLY DART TOWARDS BUSHI!
THE GRASS IS HELD TIGHTLY BY PURE ENERGY, JOINING TOGETHER TO FORM A SWORD THAT MOVES WITH IRRESISTIBLE POWER!
AH! BELIEVER IN BUDDHA STILL STUBBORNLY PERSISTS IN HIS ERRORS. AMEN, AMEN!
BUSHI'S BODY TURNS RAPIDLY, WHIRLING WITH AMAZING SKILL.
TRANSFORMATION KNACK
Transformation Defense

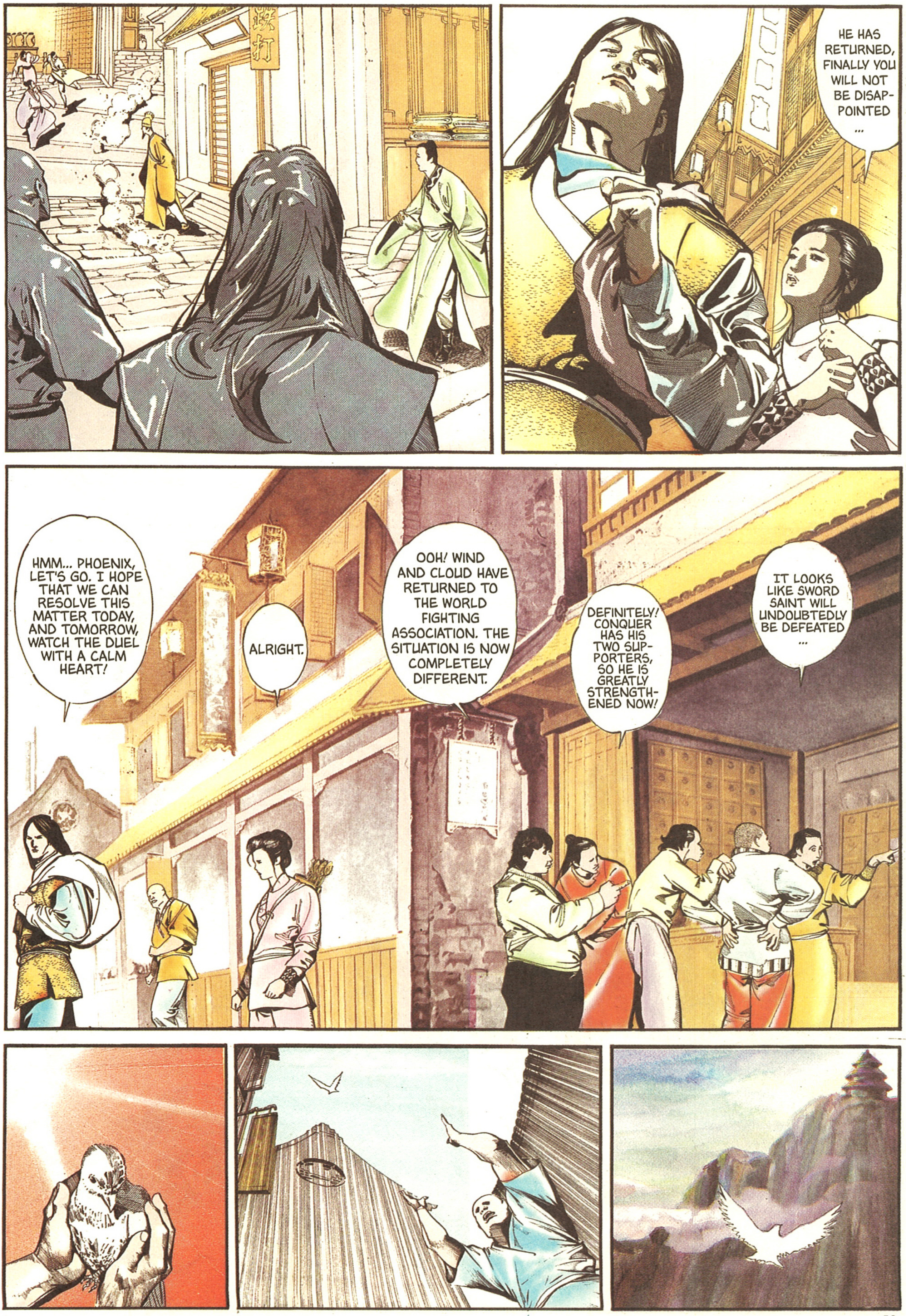

"TRANSFORMATION DEFENSE," IS A UNIQUE SKILL THAT ENABLES ONE TO FACE ANY FIERCE ATTACK. IT'S ABILITY TO TRANSFORM IS WITHOUT EQUAL. WHEN "SWORD SKILL THREE" ENCOUNTERS THIS RARELY SEEN MIRACULOUS SKILL, IT IMMEDIATELY MEETS DEFEAT!
HEH! "TRANSFORMATION DEFENSE" IS SHALLOW AND SUPERFICIAL. YOU DO NOT USE THE KILLING POWER OF "TRANSFORMATION ATTACK". CLEARLY YOU LOOK DOWN ON THIS OLD MAN!
MAKE USE OF YOUR "POWER OF TRANSFORMATION ATTACK", OR ELSE YOU WILL FIND YOUR OWN DEATH!
BOOM
SHAH!

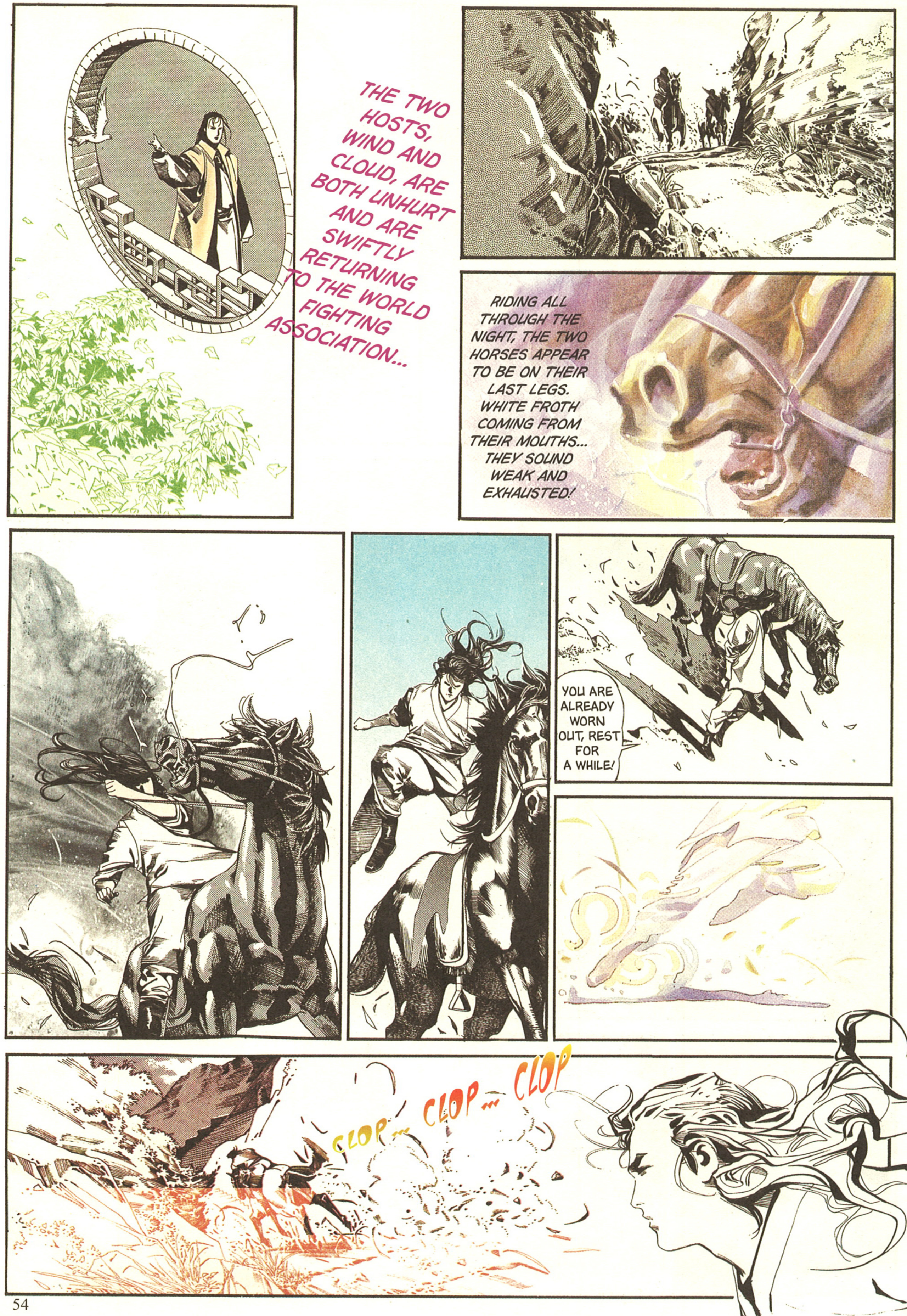

Hero Sword
NAMELESS! FINALLY YOU ARE HERE.

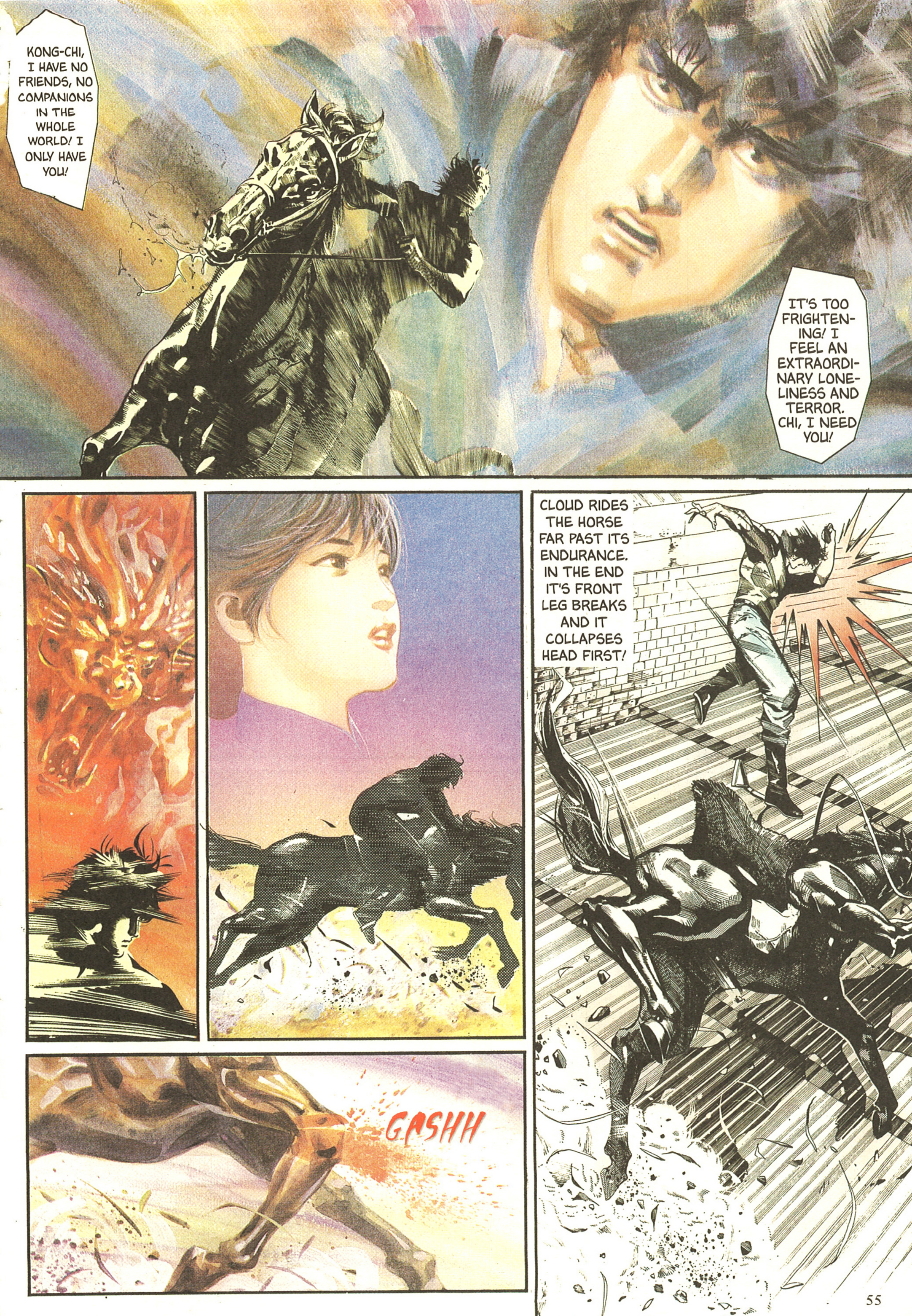

TIAN YIN CASTLE - LOCATED BELOW TIAN MOUNTAIN. THE PEOPLE ARE ACCUSTOMED TO LUXURY AND RICHES, SINCE IT IS UNDER THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION...
DUAN-LANG SPREAD THE NEWS OF THE CHALLENGE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. AND THE HEROES OF THE CIRCLE OF FIGHTERS HAVE ARRIVED LIKE A FLOOD, SO THAT THE CITY IS FILLED TO BURSTING...
THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION'S FEARED OPPONENT IS SWORD SAINT'S CONSPIRACY. CONSEQUENTLY, ONLY THE MOST OUTSTANDING OF EACH FACTION WERE SUMMONED AND THE REMAINDER WERE FORCED TO WAIT OUTSIDE THE DOORS!
ALTHOUGH THEY ARE UNABLE TO WATCH THE BATTLE THAT HAD CAUSED SUCH AN UPROAR, THEY STILL HOPE TO BE THE FIRST TO LEARN OF THE OUTCOME. THEREFORE, THEY ALL REMAIN IN THE INN!
HEY, OLD MAN MA, WHAT DO YOU THINK WILL BE THE OUTCOME OF TOMORROW'S BATTLE?
HEH... IN MY ESTEEMED OPINION, SWORD SAINT WILL ACHIEVE VICTORY RATHER SMOOTHLY!

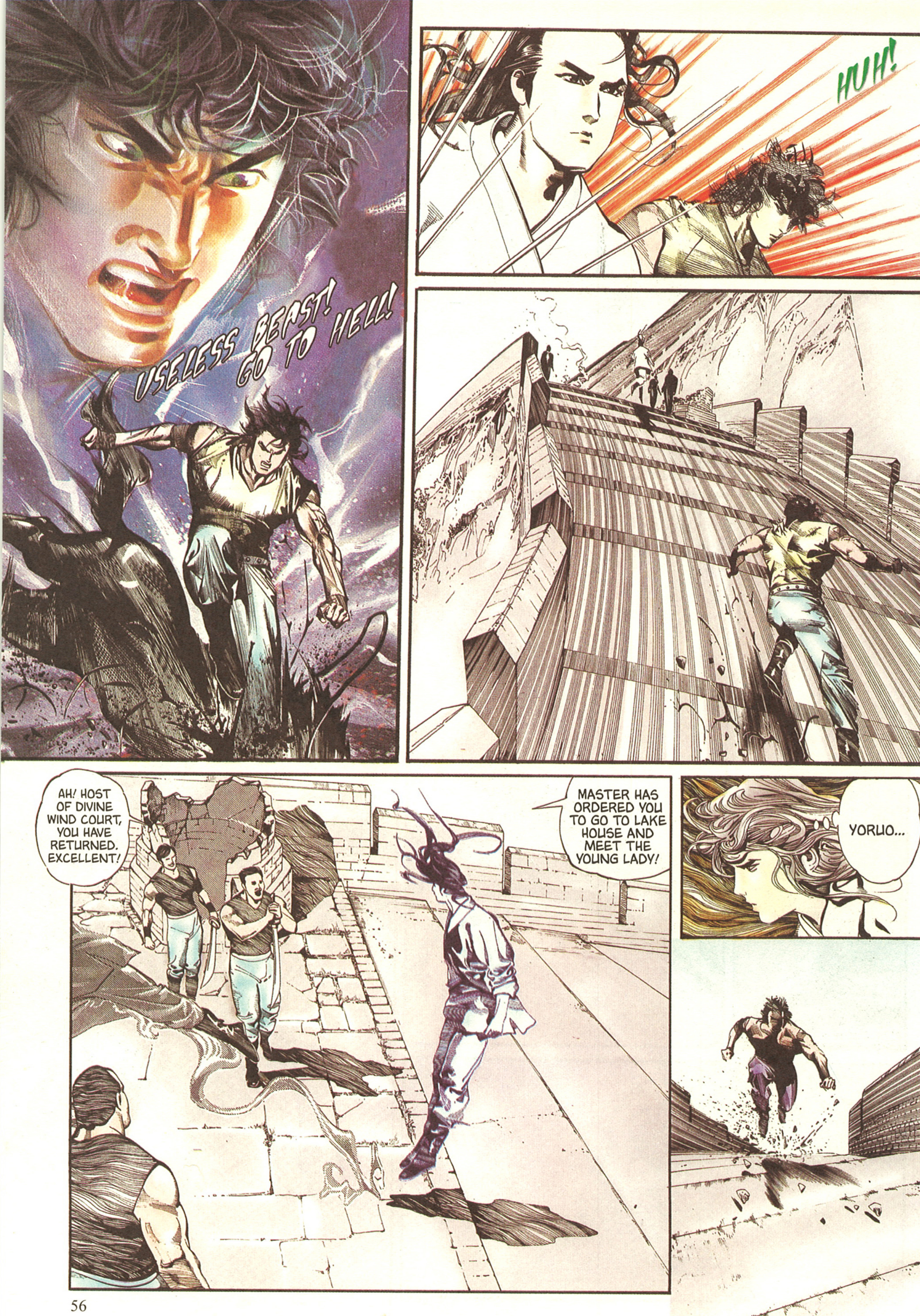

IN RECENT YEARS THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION'S AUTHORITY HAS BEEN UNCHALLENGED. CONQUER HAS ALREADY ENJOYED HIGH RANK AND LIVED IN LUXURY FOR MANY YEARS NOW... THOUGH, ON THE OTHER HAND, SWORD SAINT HAS BEEN CULTIVATING HIS KNOWLEDGE IN SECLUSION FOR MANY YEARS. HIS SKILL MUST BE MUCH HIGHER THAN THAT OF CONQUER!
BUT CONQUER HAS POWERFUL PEOPLE UNDER HIM.
HEY! LISTEN TO THIS; I HEARD THAT THE TWO HOSTS, WIND AND CLOUD, ENCOUNTERED A MURDEROUS PLOT AND CONQUER IS ALL ALONE NOW.
IS THIS TRUE?!
WE HAVE SEARCHED FOR MANY DAYS, AND WE STILL DO NOT KNOW WHERE TO START!
HUSBAND, IS THERE SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND?
MUD BUDDHA'S WORDS CAN NOT POSSIBLY BE FALSE... IF WE ARE PERSISTENT THEN WE WILL DEFINITELY SUCCEED!
OKAY! WE WILL TRY OUR LUCK AGAIN!

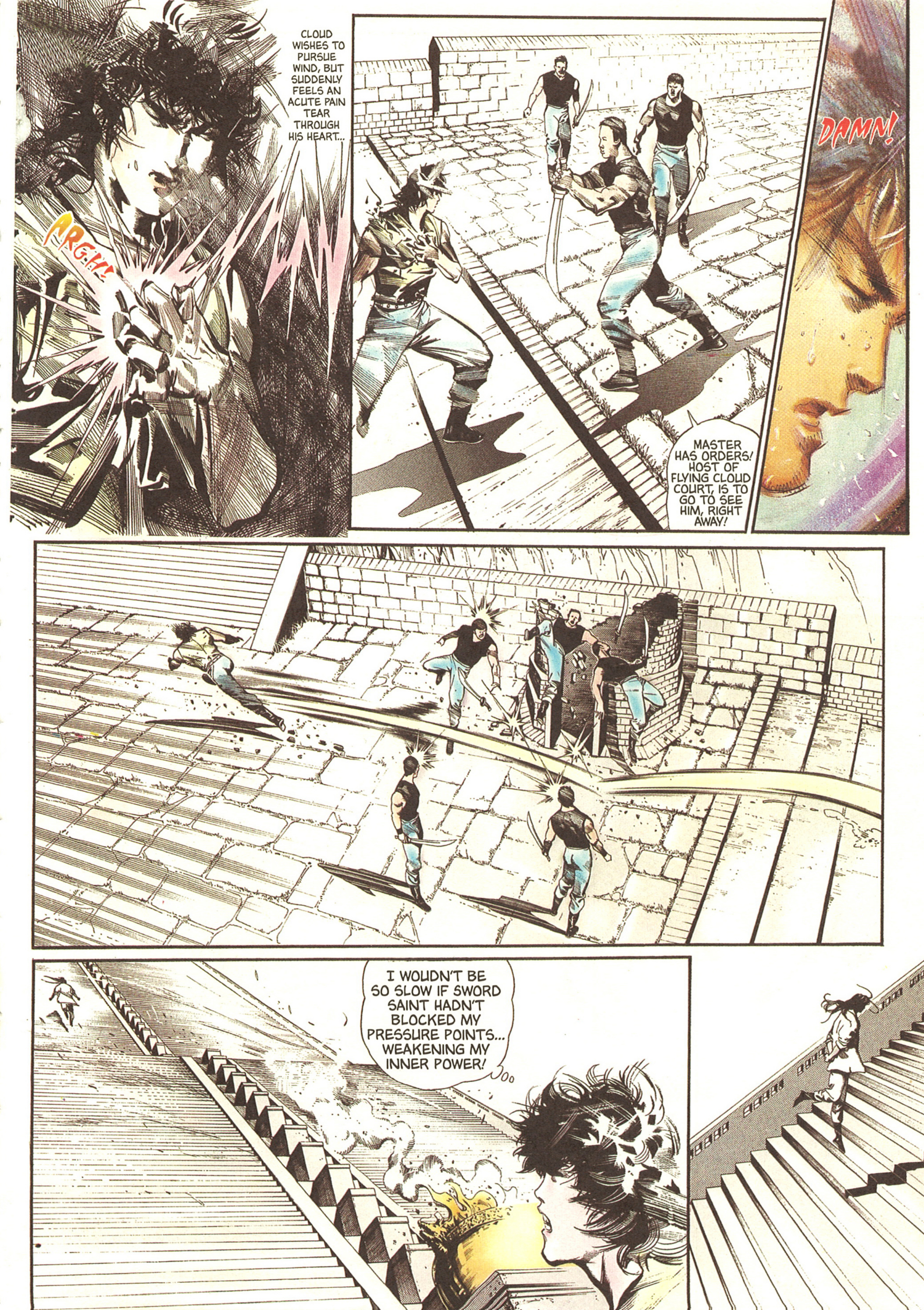

TWO HORSES COME GALLOPING FROM AFAR. THE PEOPLE SITTING IN THE SADDLES SEEM AS IF THEY HAVE COME FROM THE HEAVENS. DANGEROUS AND FOREBODING, THEY ATTRACT THE ATTENTION OF EVERYONE IN THE STREET!
HEY! EVERYBODY, COME QUICK AND LOOK!
CLOTH STORE
跌打
FIRST AID
妙算玄機
DIVINATION

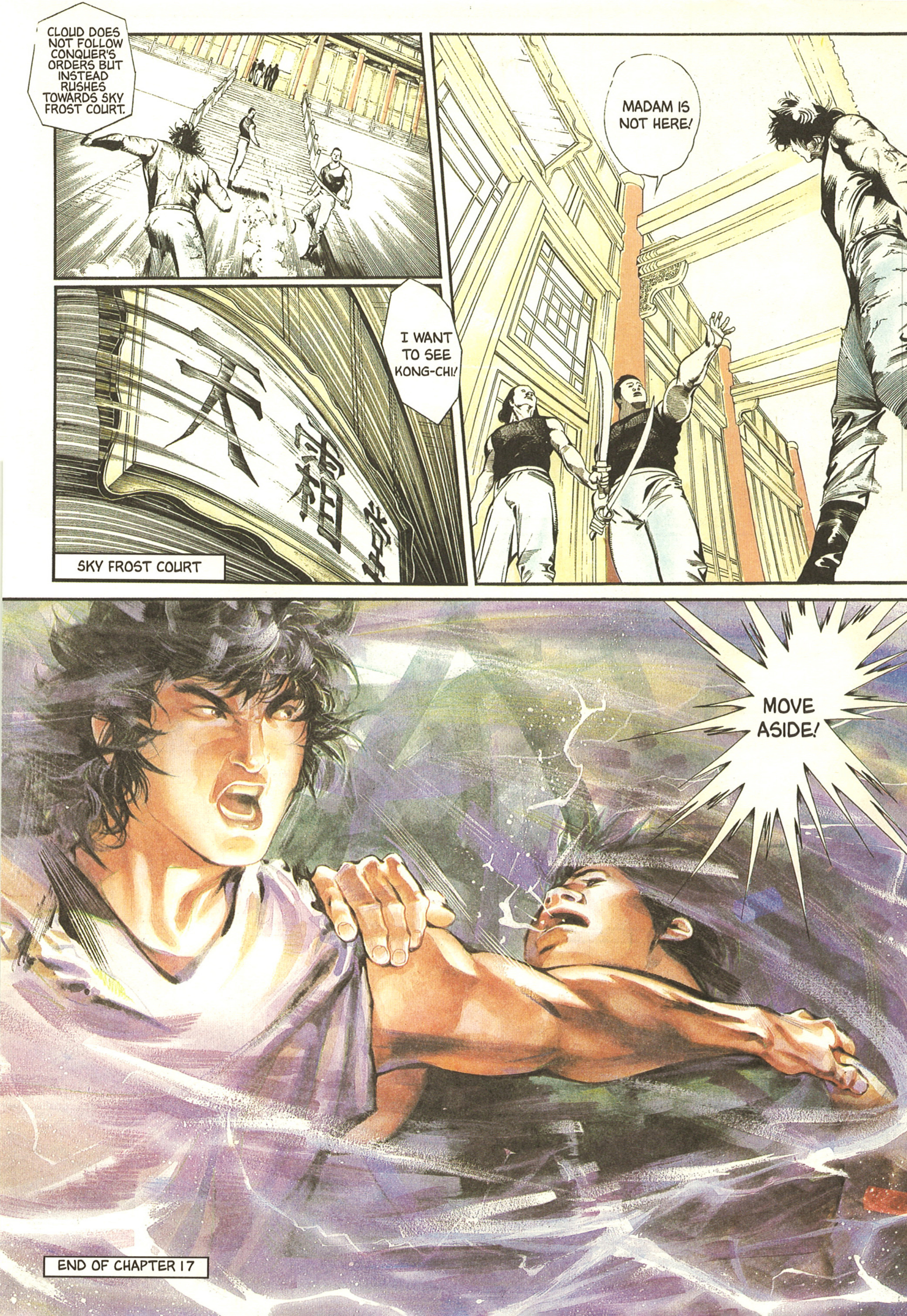

HE HAS RETURNED, FINALLY YOU WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED ...
HMM... PHOENIX, LET'S GO. I HOPE THAT WE CAN RESOLVE THIS MATTER TODAY, AND TOMORROW, WATCH THE DUEL WITH A CALM HEART!
ALRIGHT.
OOH! WIND AND CLOUD HAVE RETURNED TO THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION. THE SITUATION IS NOW COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.
DEFINITELY! CONQUER HAS HIS TWO SUPPORTERS, SO HE IS GREATLY STRENGTHENED NOW!
IT LOOKS LIKE SWORD SAINT WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE DEFEATED ...

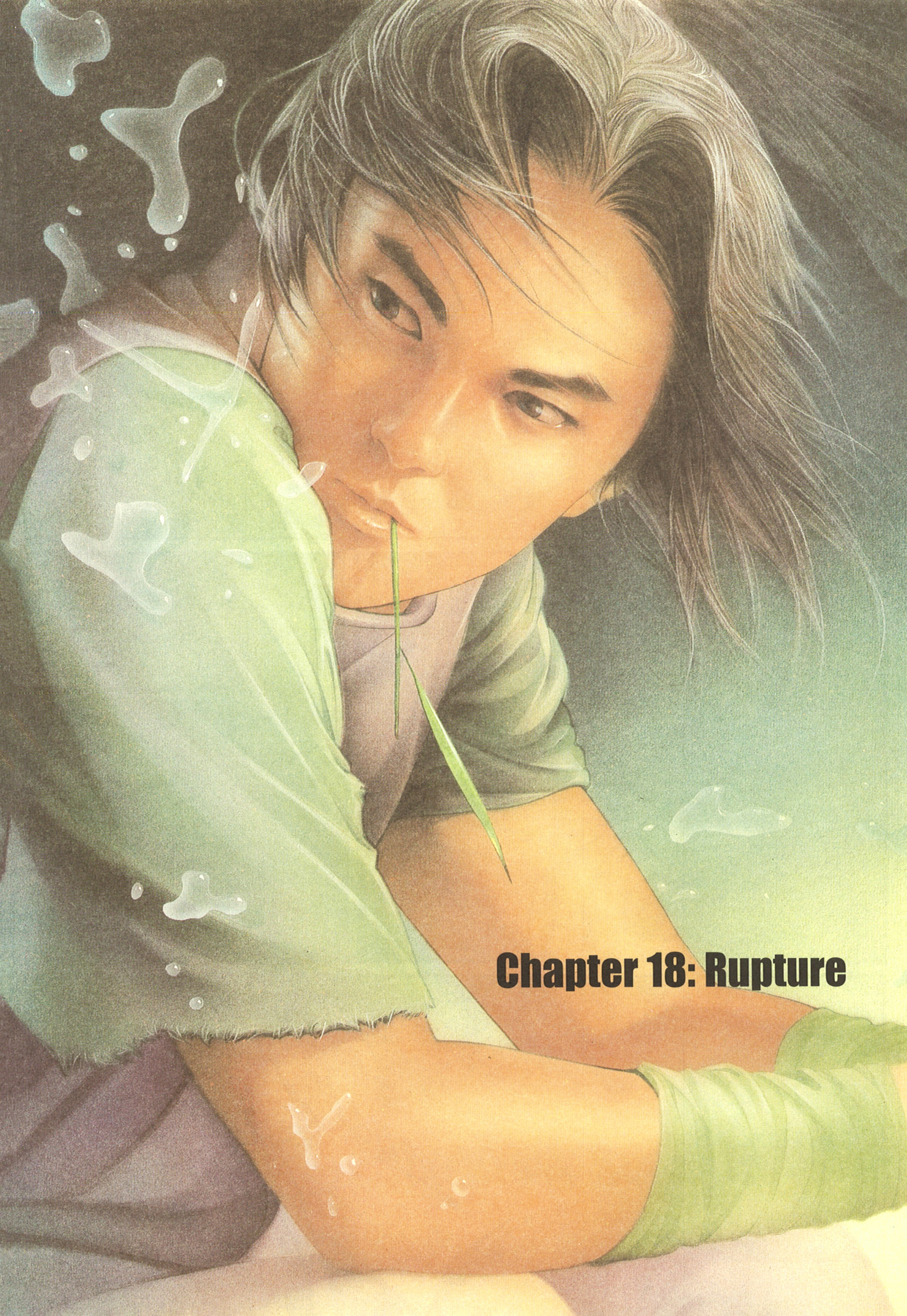

THE TWO HOSTS, WIND AND CLOUD, ARE BOTH UNHURT AND ARE SWIFTLY RETURNING TO THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION...
RIDING ALL THROUGH THE NIGHT, THE TWO HORSES APPEAR TO BE ON THEIR LAST LEGS. WHITE FROTH COMING FROM THEIR MOUTHS... THEY SOUND WEAK AND EXHAUSTED!
YOU ARE ALREADY WORN OUT, REST FOR A WHILE!
CLOP... CLOP... CLOP


KONG-CHI, I HAVE NO FRIENDS, NO COMPANIONS IN THE WHOLE WORLD! I ONLY HAVE YOU!
IT'S TOO FRIGHTENING! I FEEL AN EXTRAORDINARY LONELINESS AND TERROR. CHI, I NEED YOU!
CLOUD RIDES THE HORSE FAR PAST ITS ENDURANCE. IN THE END IT'S FRONT LEG BREAKS AND IT COLLAPSES HEAD FIRST!
GASHH

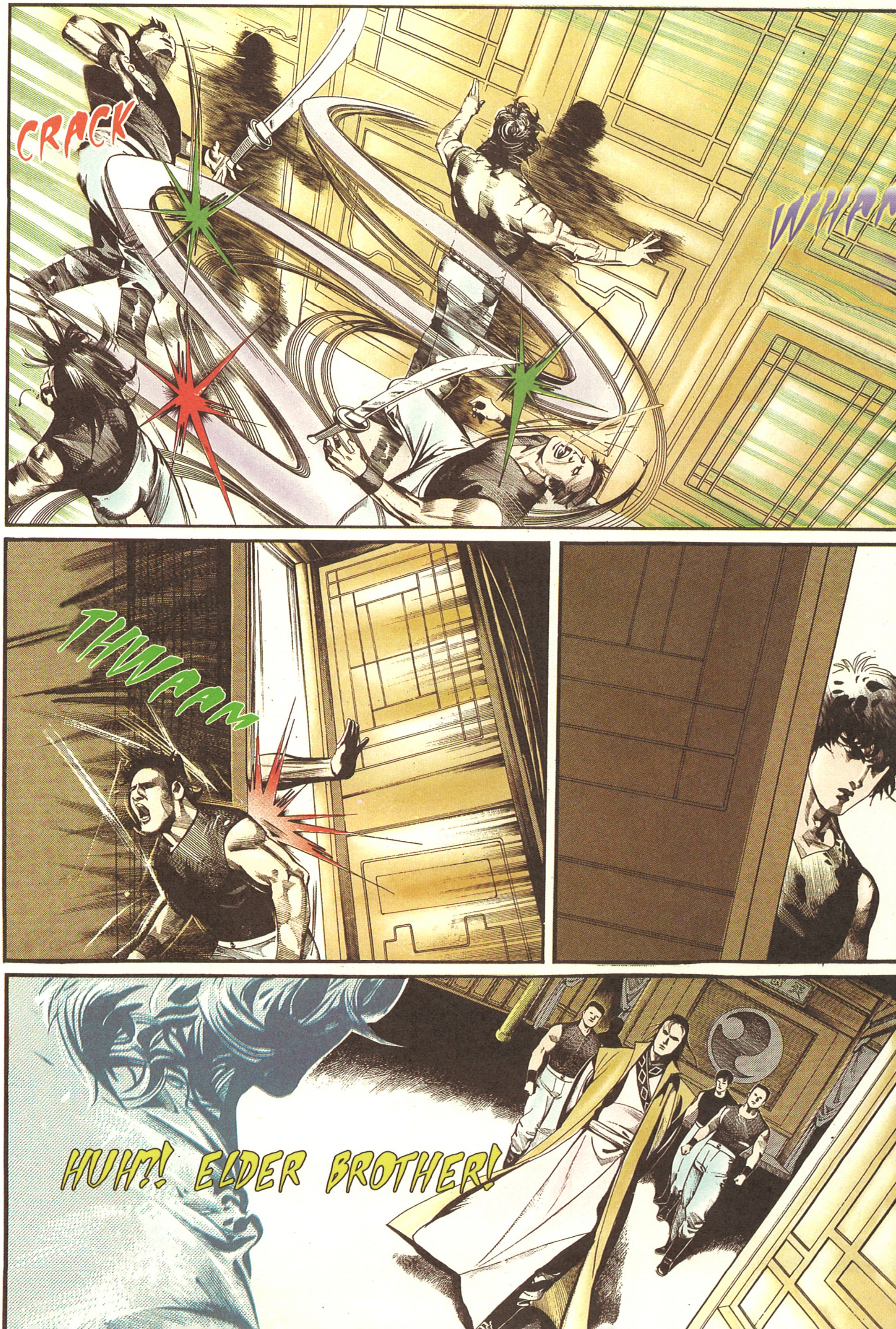

USELESS BEAST! GO TO HELL!
HUH!
AH! HOST OF DIVINE WIND COURT, YOU HAVE RETURNED. EXCELLENT!
MASTER HAS ORDERED YOU TO GO TO LAKE HOUSE AND MEET THE YOUNG LADY!
YORUO...

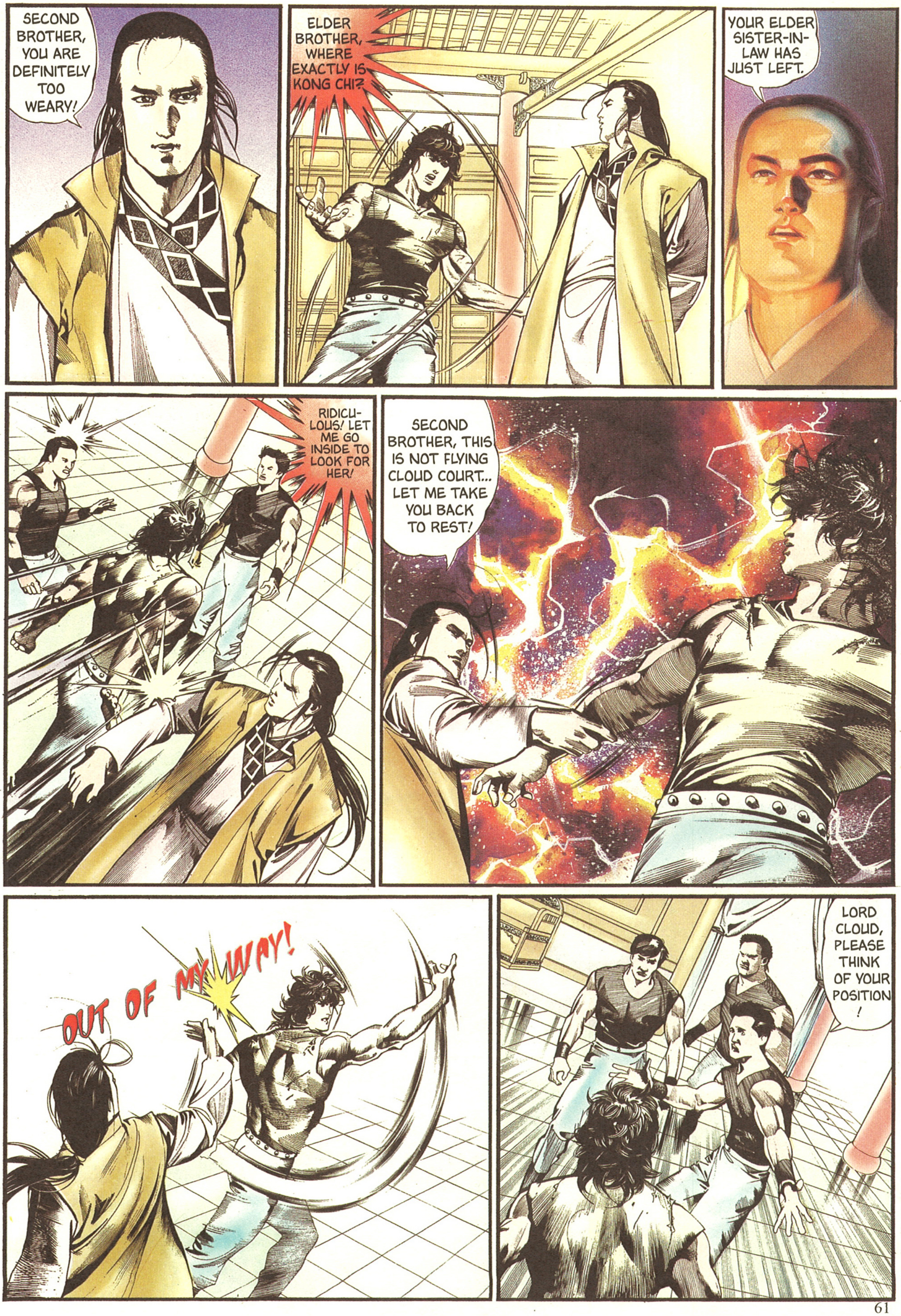

CLOUD WISHES TO PURSUE WIND, BUT SUDDENLY FEELS AN ACUTE PAIN TEAR THROUGH HIS HEART...
ARGH!
MASTER HAS ORDERS! HOST OF FLYING CLOUD COURT, IS TO GO TO SEE HIM, RIGHT AWAY!
DAMN!
I WOUDN'T BE SO SLOW IF SWORD SAINT HADN'T BLOCKED MY PRESSURE POINTS... WEAKENING MY INNER POWER!

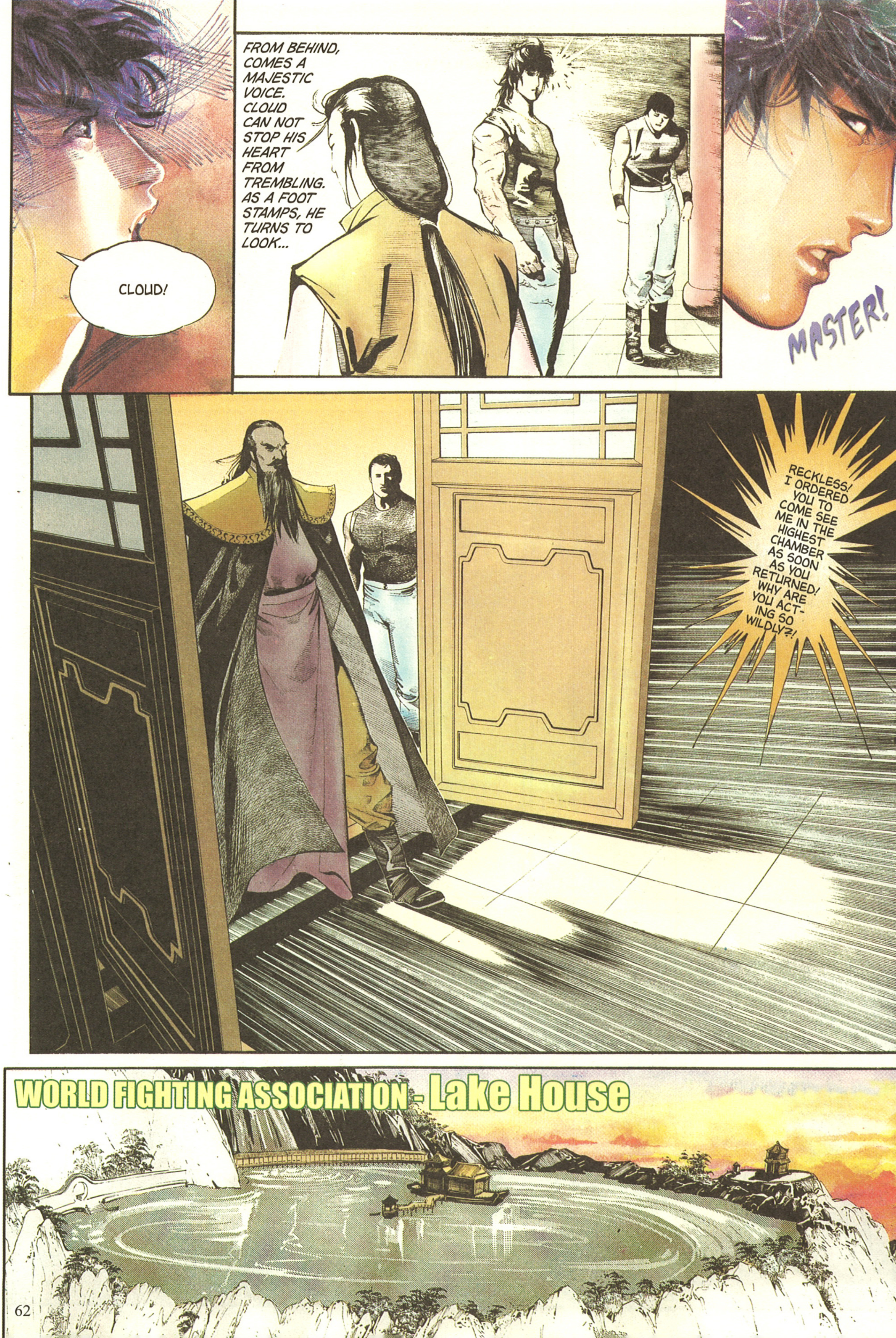

CLOUD DOES NOT FOLLOW CONQUER'S ORDERS BUT INSTEAD RUSHES TOWARDS SKY FROST COURT.
I WANT TO SEE KONG-CHI!
天霜堂
SKY FROST COURT
MADAM IS NOT HERE!
MOVE ASIDE!
END OF CHAPTER 17

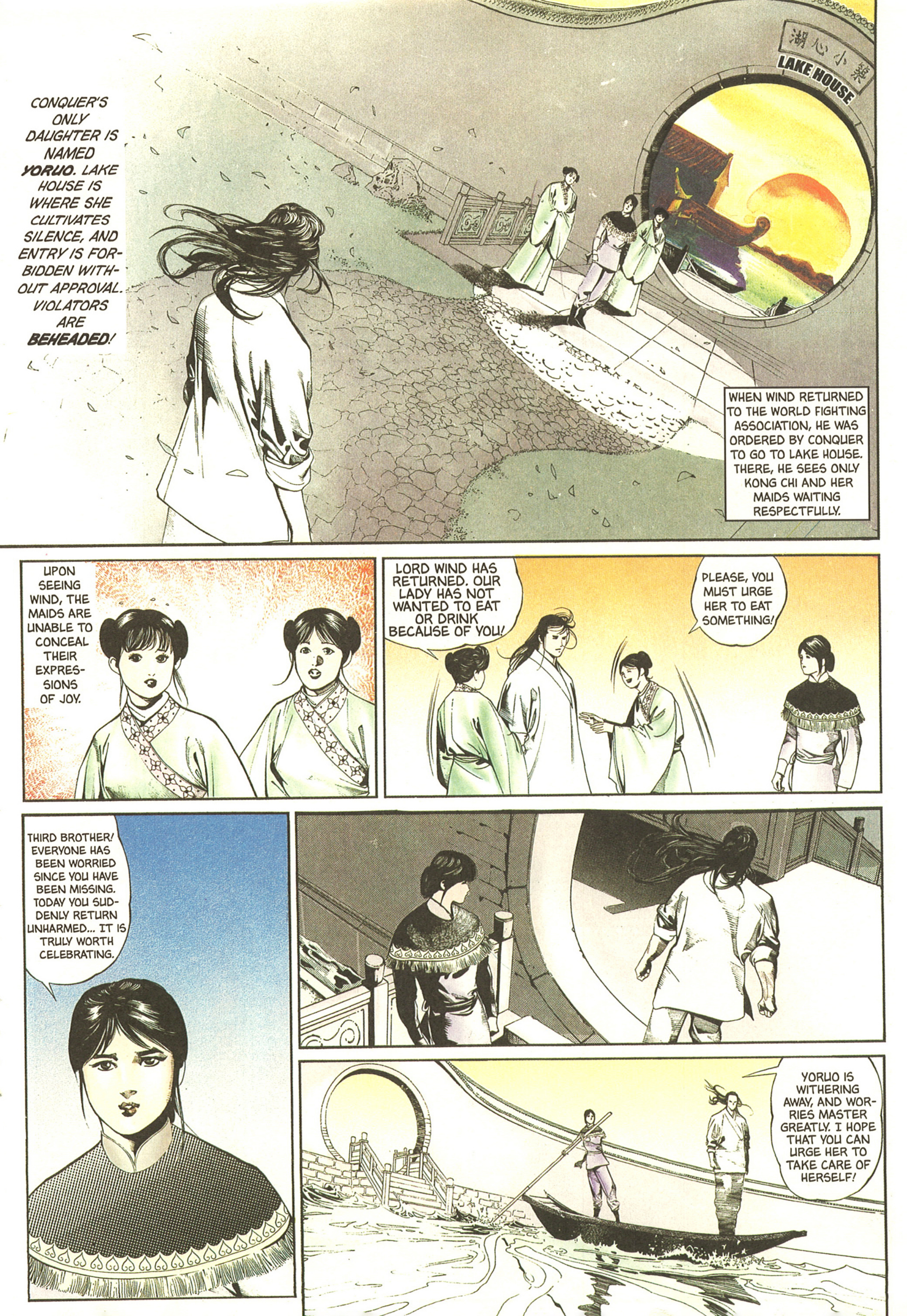


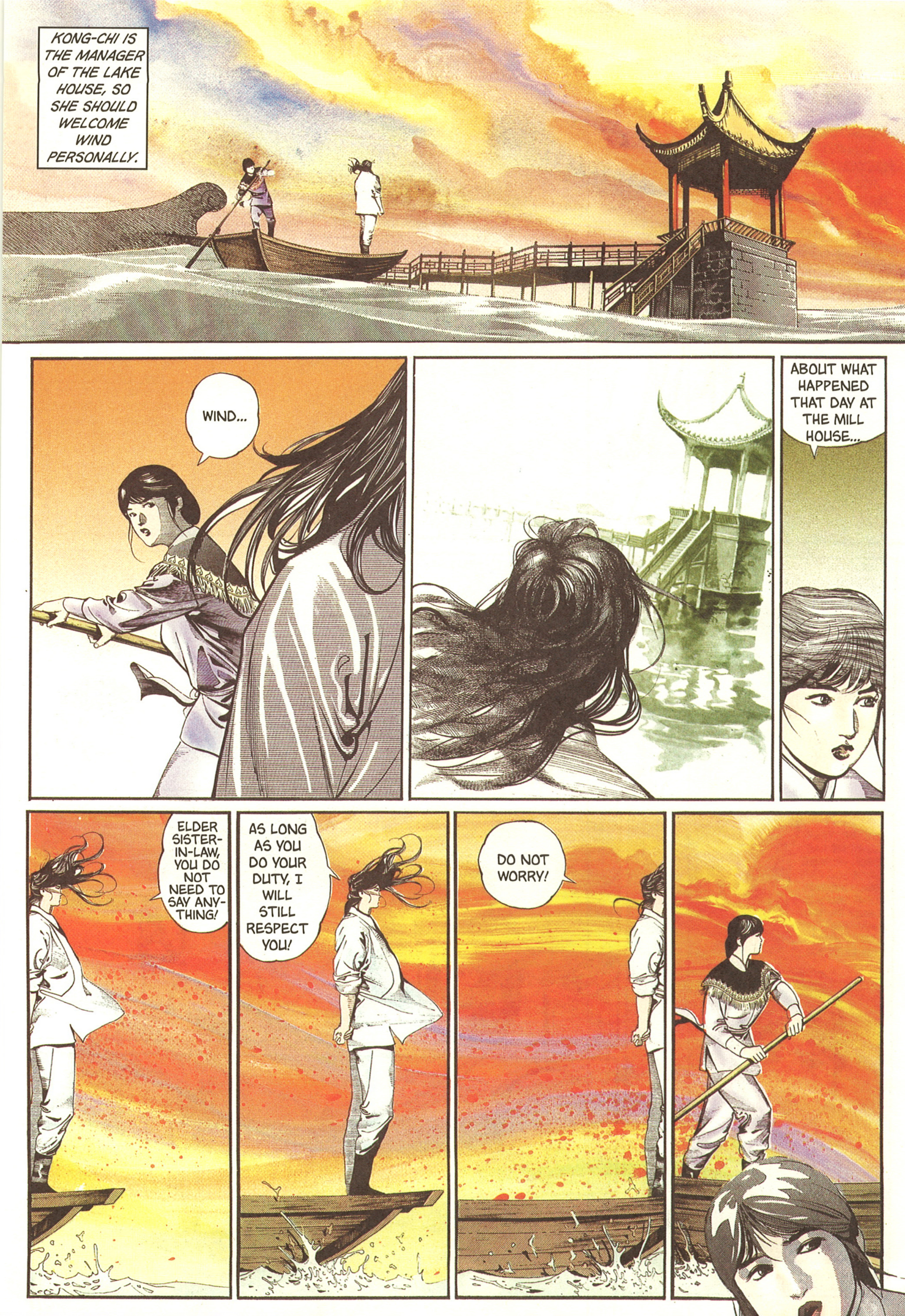
Chapter 18: Rupture

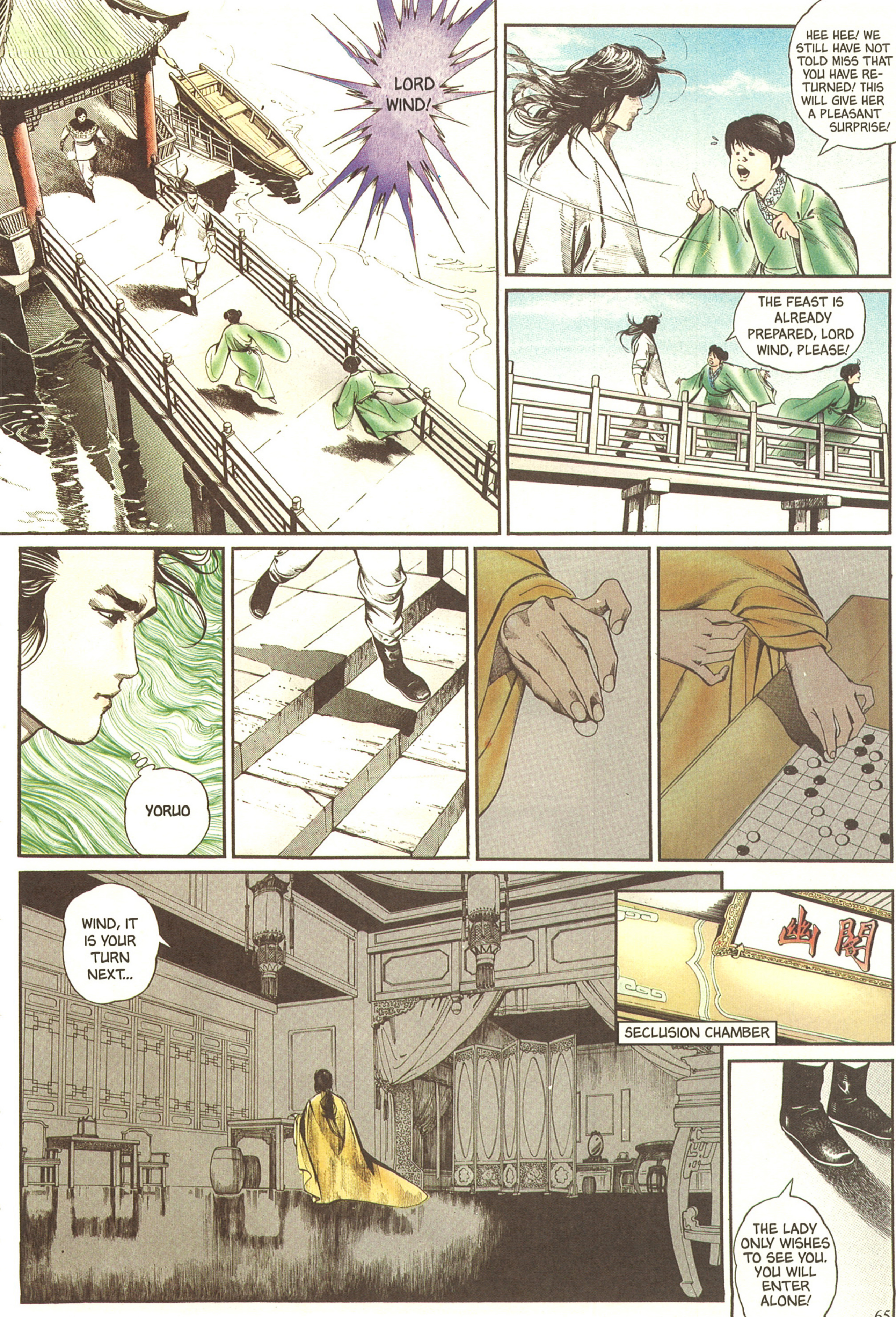

CRACK
WHAM
THWAAM
HUH?! ELDER BROTHER!

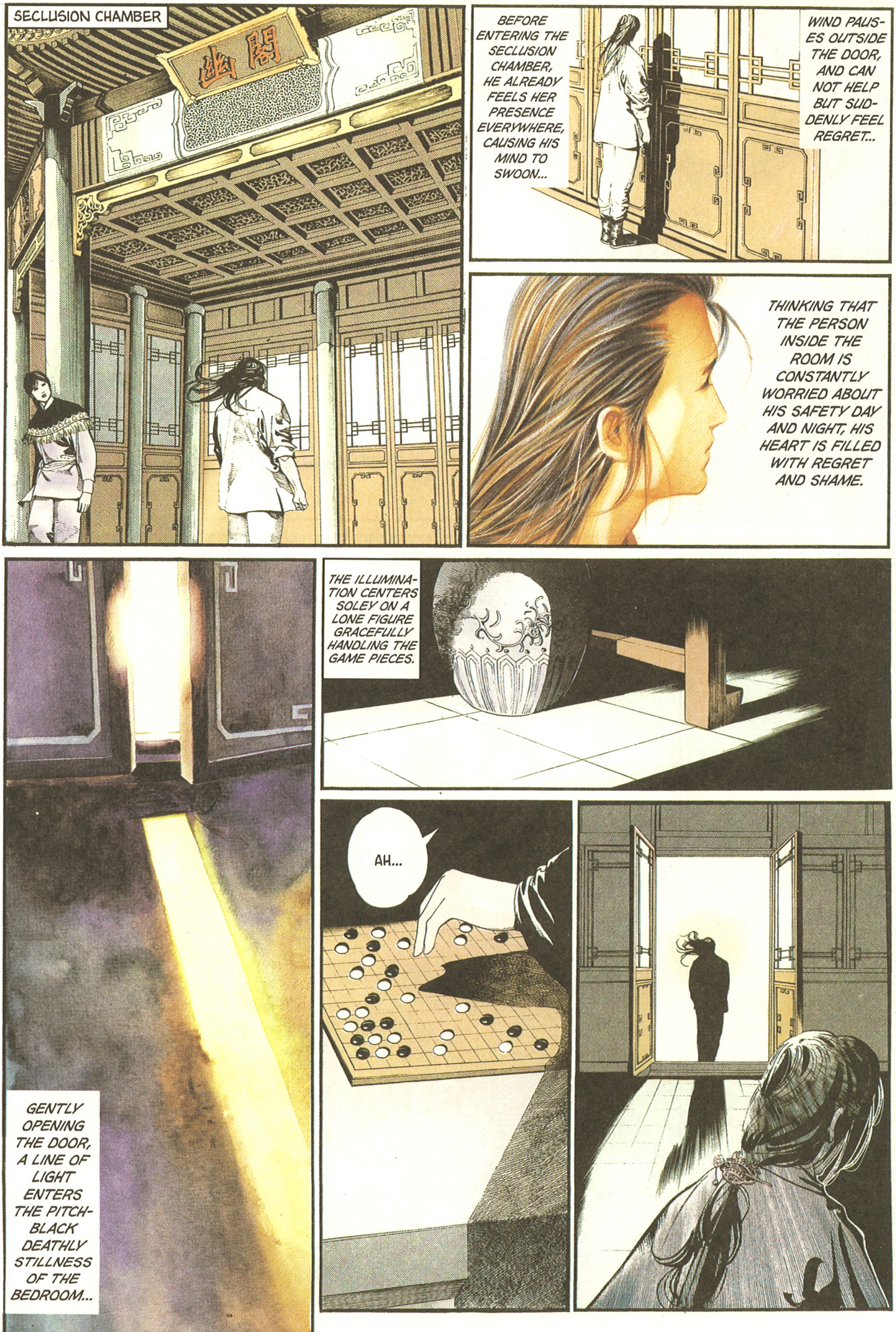

SECOND BROTHER, YOU ARE DEFINITELY TOO WEARY!
ELDER BROTHER, WHERE EXACTLY IS KONG CHI?
YOUR ELDER SISTER-IN-LAW HAS JUST LEFT.
RIDICULOUS! LET ME GO INSIDE TO LOOK FOR HER!
SECOND BROTHER, THIS IS NOT FLYING CLOUD COURT... LET ME TAKE YOU BACK TO REST!
OUT OF MY WAY!
LORD CLOUD, PLEASE THINK OF YOUR POSITION!

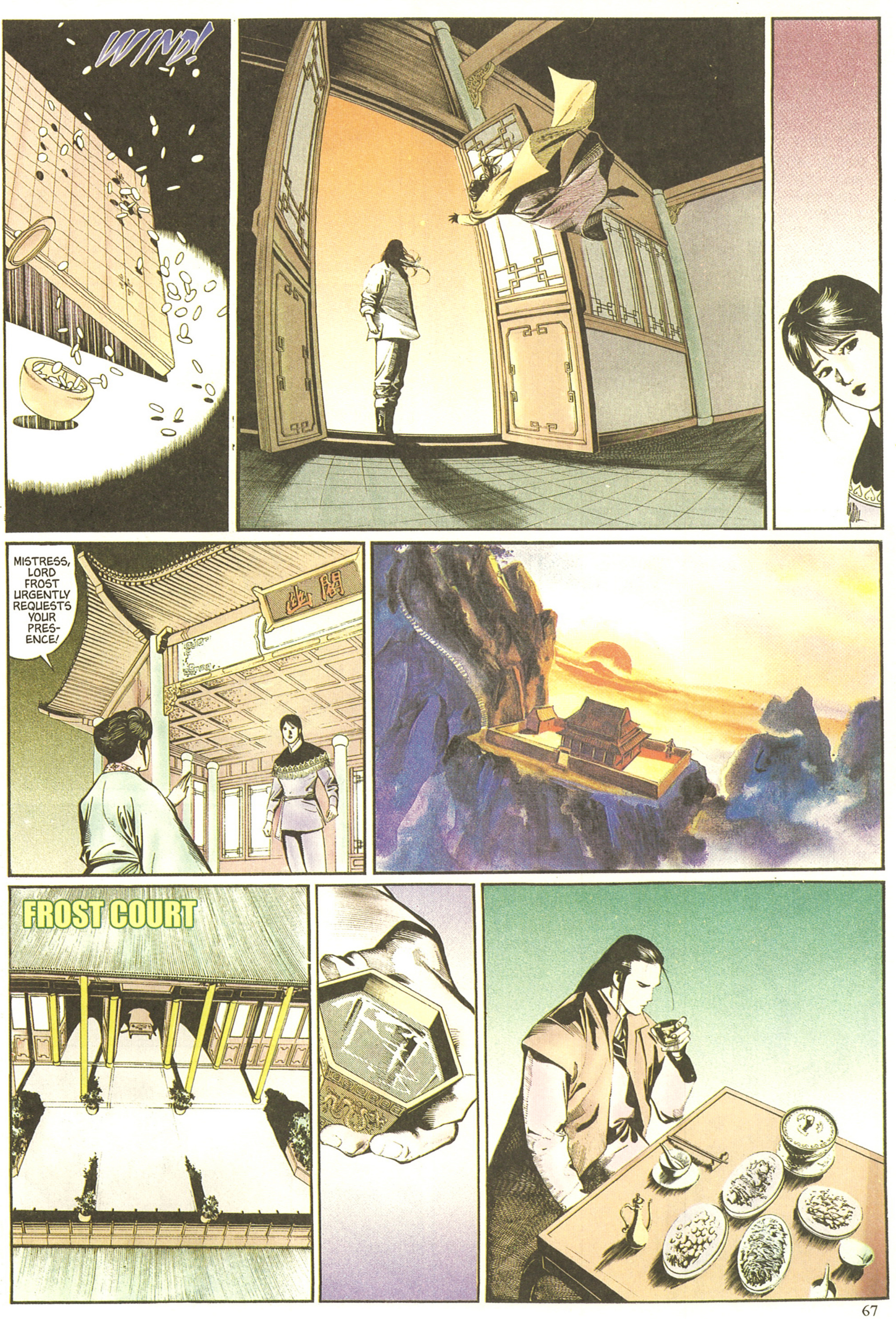

CLOUD!
FROM BEHIND, COMES A MAJESTIC VOICE. CLOUD CAN NOT STOP HIS HEART FROM TREMBLING. AS A FOOT STAMPS, HE TURNS TO LOOK...
MASTER!
RECKLESS! I ORDERED YOU TO COME SEE ME IN THE HIGHEST CHAMBER AS SOON AS YOU RETURNED! WHY ARE YOU ACTING SO WILDLY?!
WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION - Lake House

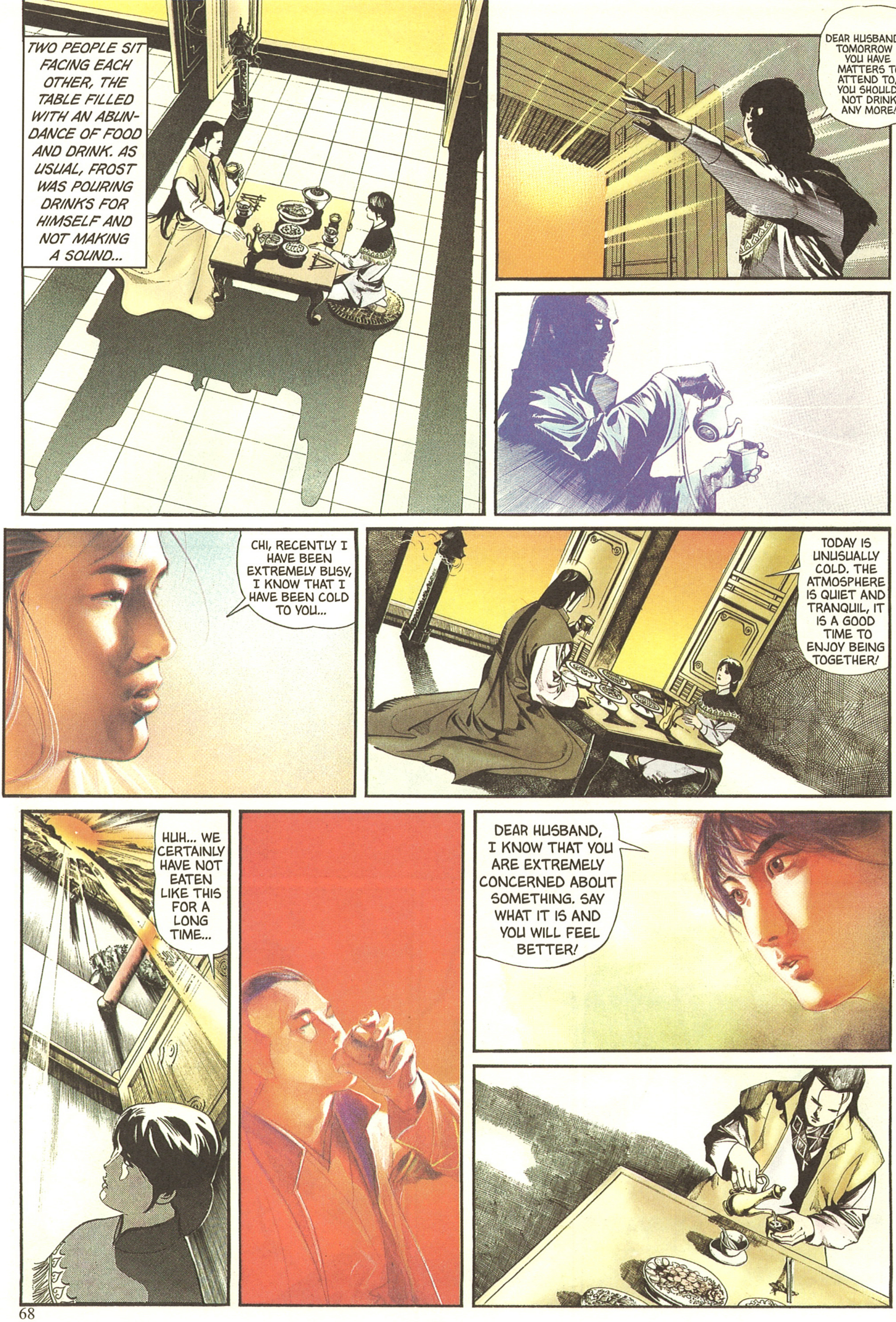

湖心小築
LAKE HOUSE
CONQUER'S ONLY DAUGHTER IS NAMED **YORUO**. LAKE HOUSE IS WHERE SHE CULTIVATES SILENCE, AND ENTRY IS FORBIDDEN WITHOUT APPROVAL. VIOLATORS ARE **BEHEADED**!
WHEN WIND RETURNED TO THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION, HE WAS ORDERED BY CONQUER TO GO TO LAKE HOUSE. THERE, HE SEES ONLY KONG CHI AND HER MAIDS WAITING RESPECTFULLY.
UPON SEEING WIND, THE MAIDS ARE UNABLE TO CONCEAL THEIR EXPRESSIONS OF JOY.
LORD WIND HAS RETURNED. OUR LADY HAS NOT WANTED TO EAT OR DRINK BECAUSE OF YOU!
PLEASE, YOU MUST URGE HER TO EAT SOMETHING!
THIRD BROTHER! EVERYONE HAS BEEN WORRIED SINCE YOU HAVE BEEN MISSING. TODAY YOU SUDDENLY RETURN UNHARMED... IT IS TRULY WORTH CELEBRATING.
YORUO IS WITHERING AWAY, AND WORRIES MASTER GREATLY. I HOPE THAT YOU CAN URGE HER TO TAKE CARE OF HERSELF!

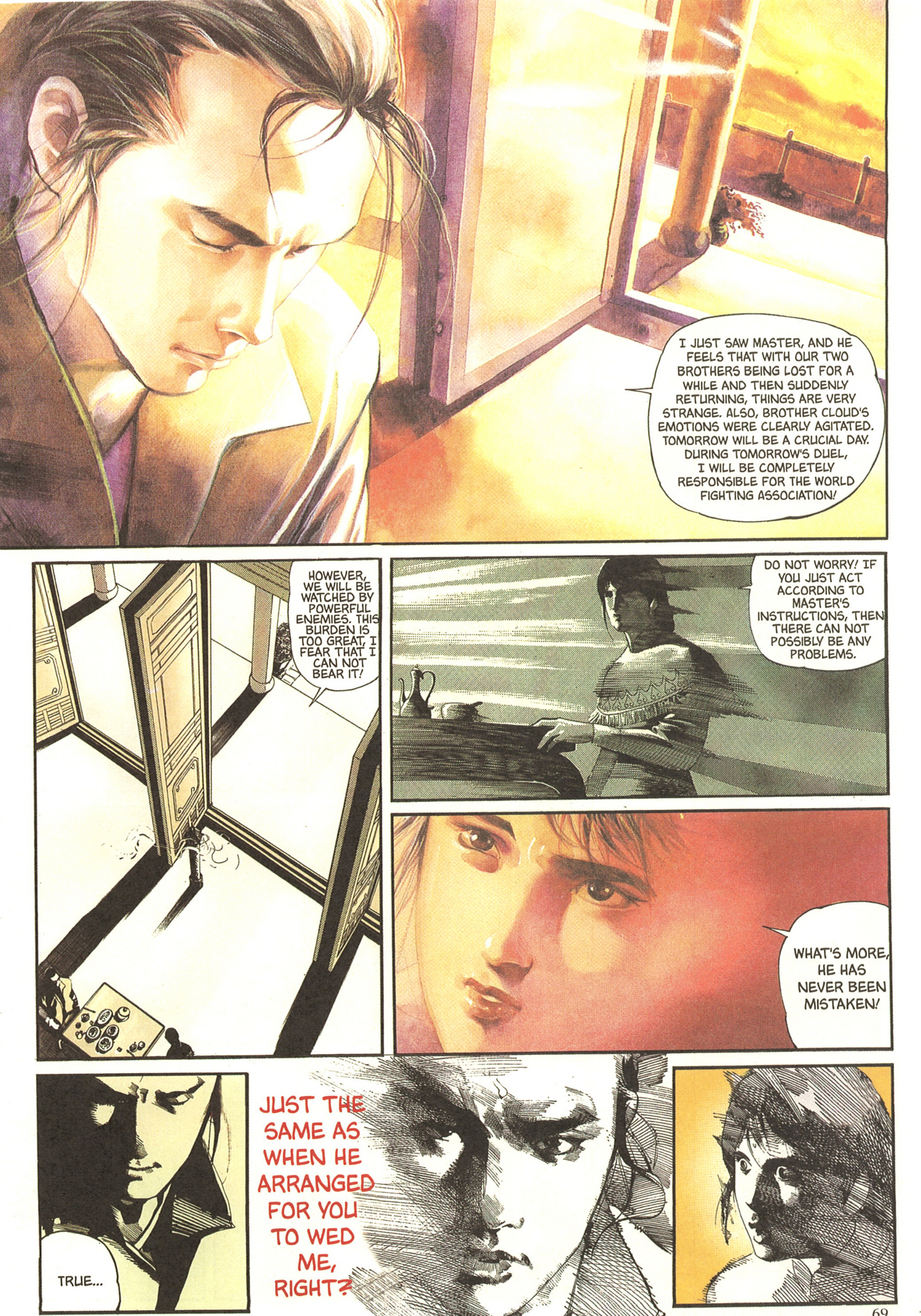

KONG-CHI IS THE MANAGER OF THE LAKE HOUSE, SO SHE SHOULD WELCOME WIND PERSONALLY.
WIND...
ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED THAT DAY AT THE MILL HOUSE...
ELDER SISTER-IN-LAW, YOU DO NOT NEED TO SAY ANYTHING!
AS LONG AS YOU DO YOUR DUTY, I WILL STILL RESPECT YOU!
DO NOT WORRY!

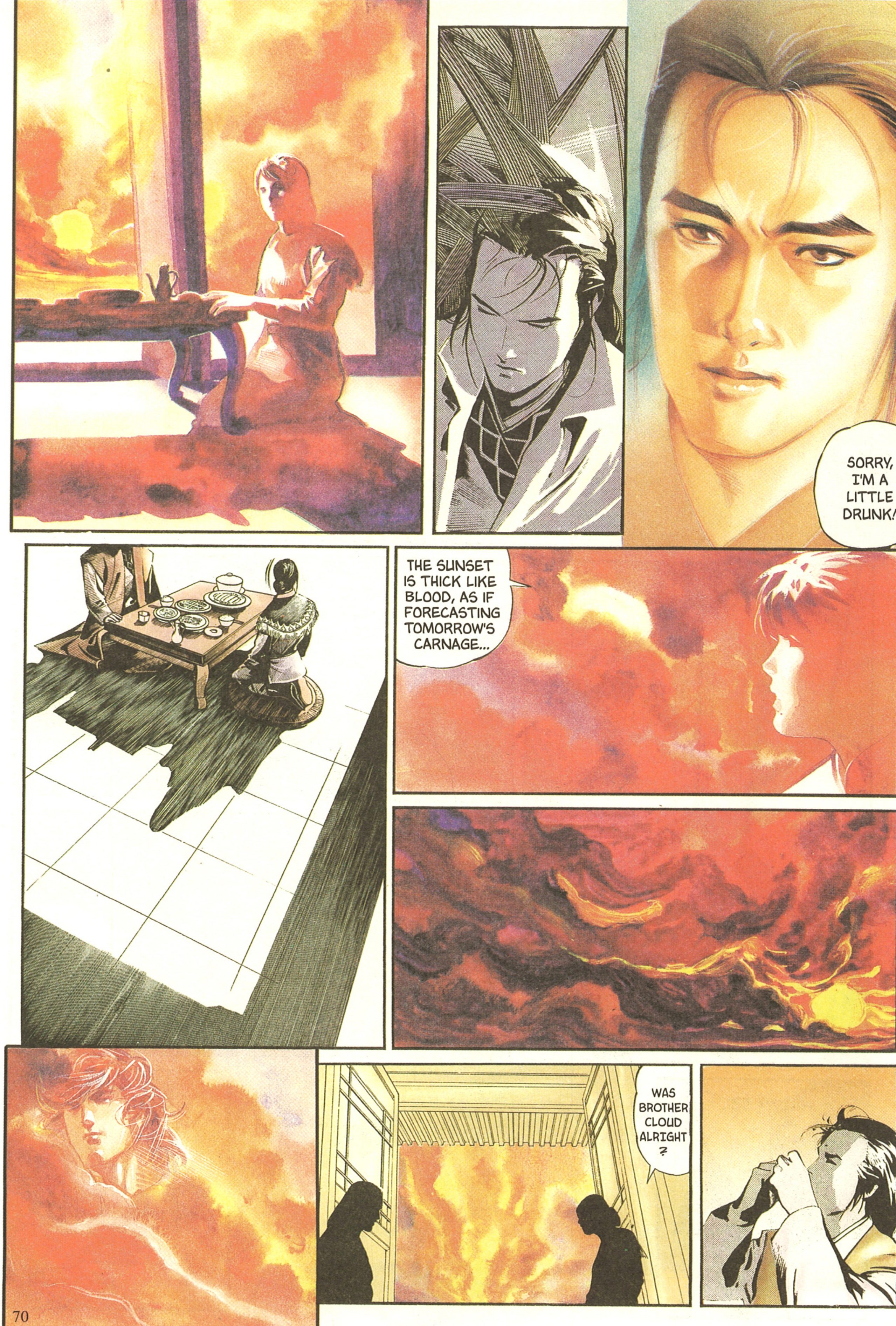

LORD WIND!
HEE HEE! WE STILL HAVE NOT TOLD MISS THAT YOU HAVE RETURNED! THIS WILL GIVE HER A PLEASANT SURPRISE!
THE FEAST IS ALREADY PREPARED, LORD WIND, PLEASE!
YORUO
WIND, IT IS YOUR TURN NEXT...
幽閣
SECLUSION CHAMBER
THE LADY ONLY WISHES TO SEE YOU. YOU WILL ENTER ALONE!

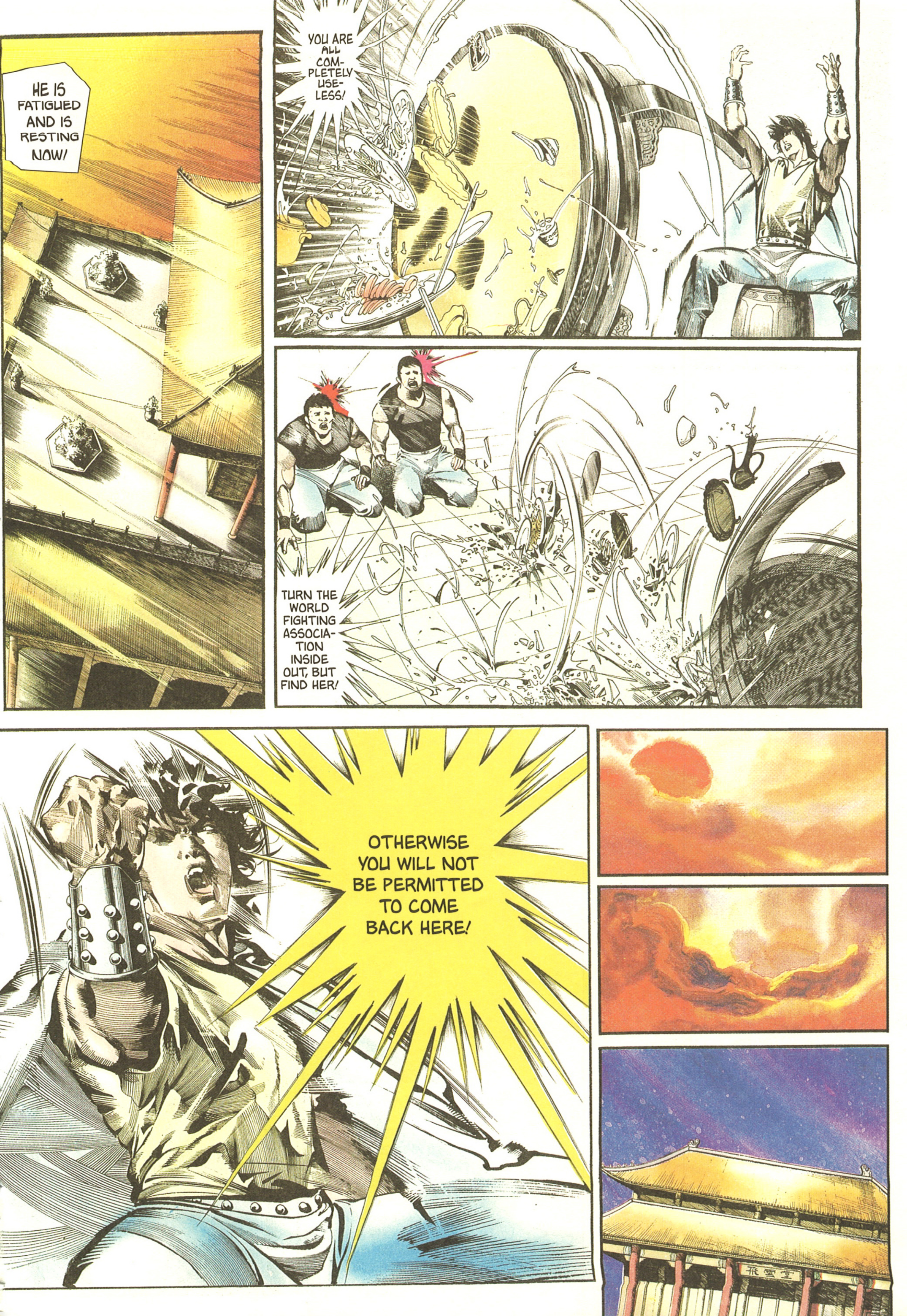

SECLUSION CHAMBER
幽閣
BEFORE ENTERING THE SECLUSION CHAMBER, HE ALREADY FEELS HER PRESENCE EVERYWHERE, CAUSING HIS MIND TO SWOON...
WIND PAUSES OUTSIDE THE DOOR, AND CAN NOT HELP BUT SUDDENLY FEEL REGRET...
THINKING THAT THE PERSON INSIDE THE ROOM IS CONSTANTLY WORRIED ABOUT HIS SAFETY DAY AND NIGHT, HIS HEART IS FILLED WITH REGRET AND SHAME.
GENTLY OPENING THE DOOR, A LINE OF LIGHT ENTERS THE PITCH-BLACK DEATHLY STILLNESS OF THE BEDROOM...
THE ILLUMINATION CENTERS SOLEY ON A LONE FIGURE GRACEFULLY HANDLING THE GAME PIECES.
AH...

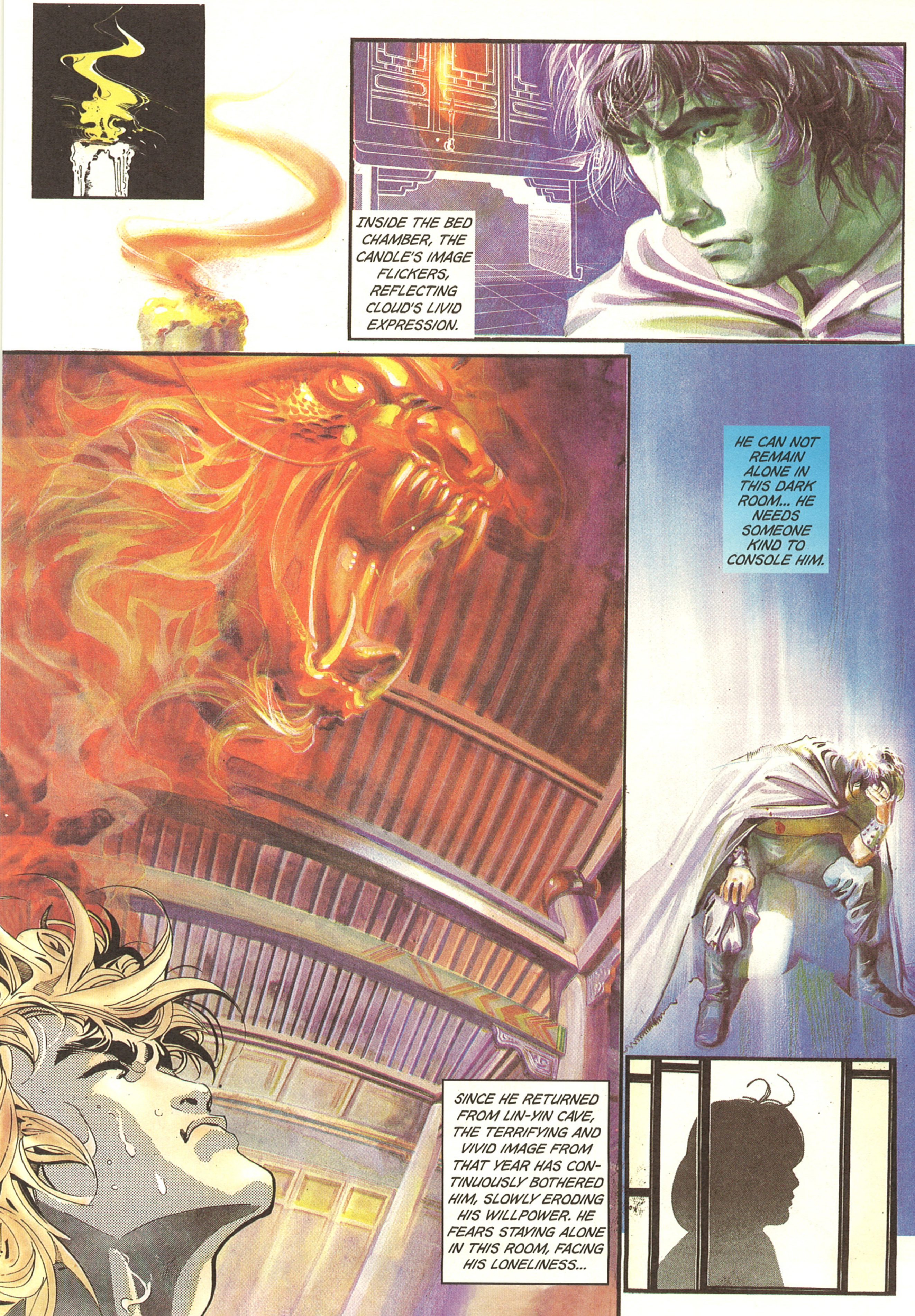

WIND!
MISTRESS, LORD FROST URGENTLY REQUESTS YOUR PRESENCE!
閣幽
FROST COURT

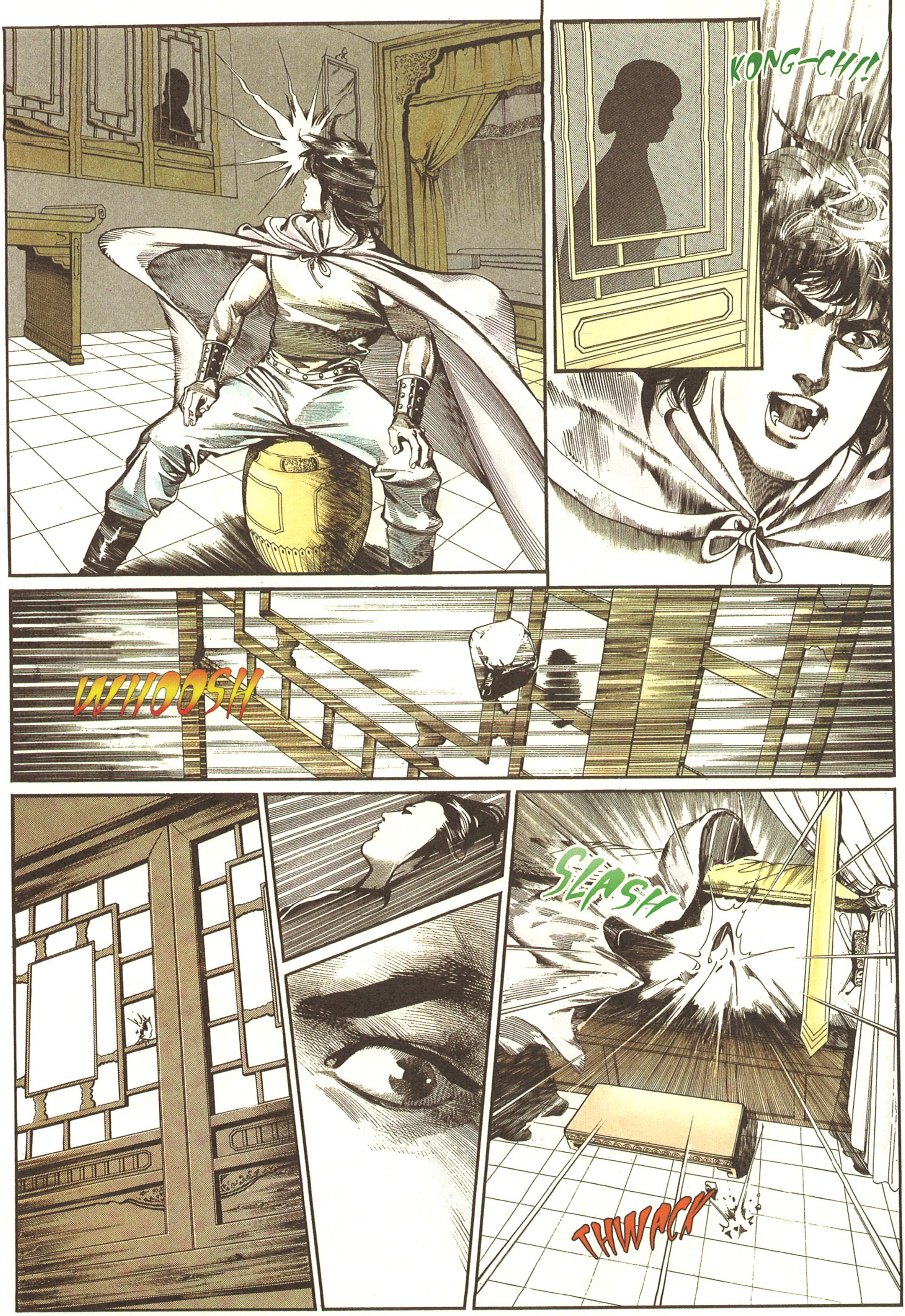

TWO PEOPLE SIT FACING EACH OTHER, THE TABLE FILLED WITH AN ABUNDANCE OF FOOD AND DRINK. AS USUAL, FROST WAS POURING DRINKS FOR HIMSELF AND NOT MAKING A SOUND...
DEAR HUSBAND TOMORROW YOU HAVE MATTERS TO ATTEND TO, YOU SHOULD NOT DRINK ANY MORE!
CHI, RECENTLY I HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY BUSY, I KNOW THAT I HAVE BEEN COLD TO YOU...
TODAY IS UNUSUALLY COLD. THE ATMOSPHERE IS QUIET AND TRANQUIL, IT IS A GOOD TIME TO ENJOY BEING TOGETHER!
HUH... WE CERTAINLY HAVE NOT EATEN LIKE THIS FOR A LONG TIME...
DEAR HUSBAND, I KNOW THAT YOU ARE EXTREMELY CONCERNED ABOUT SOMETHING. SAY WHAT IT IS AND YOU WILL FEEL BETTER!

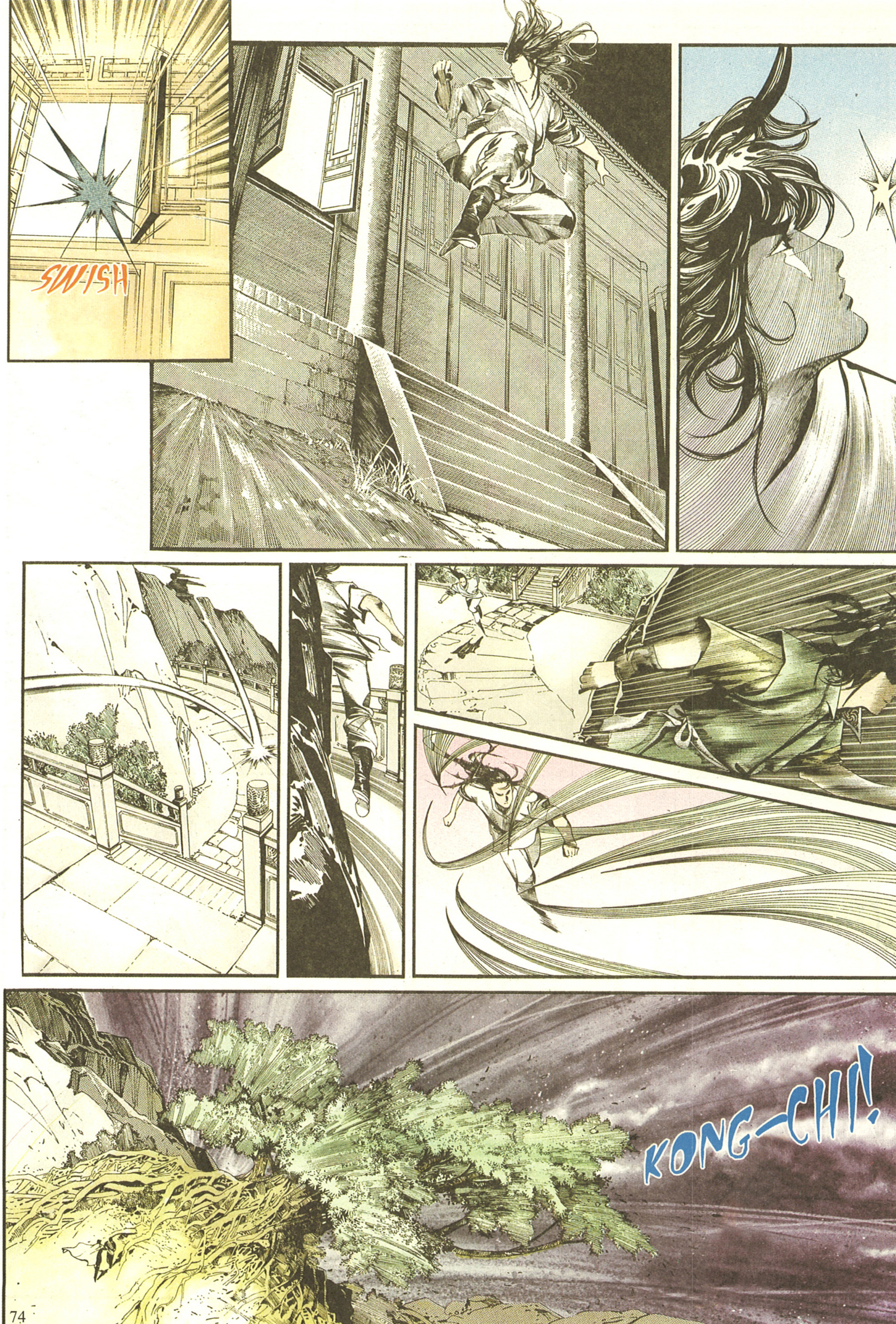

I JUST SAW MASTER, AND HE FEELS THAT WITH OUR TWO BROTHERS BEING LOST FOR A WHILE AND THEN SUDDENLY RETURNING, THINGS ARE VERY STRANGE. ALSO, BROTHER CLOUD'S EMOTIONS WERE CLEARLY AGITATED. TOMORROW WILL BE A CRUCIAL DAY. DURING TOMORROW'S DUEL, I WILL BE COMPLETELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION!
HOWEVER, WE WILL BE WATCHED BY POWERFUL ENEMIES. THIS BURDEN IS TOO GREAT, I FEAR THAT I CAN NOT BEAR IT!
DO NOT WORRY! IF YOU JUST ACT ACCORDING TO MASTER'S INSTRUCTIONS, THEN THERE CAN NOT POSSIBLY BE ANY PROBLEMS.
WHAT'S MORE, HE HAS NEVER BEEN MISTAKEN!
TRUE...
JUST THE SAME AS WHEN HE ARRANGED FOR YOU TO WED ME, RIGHT?

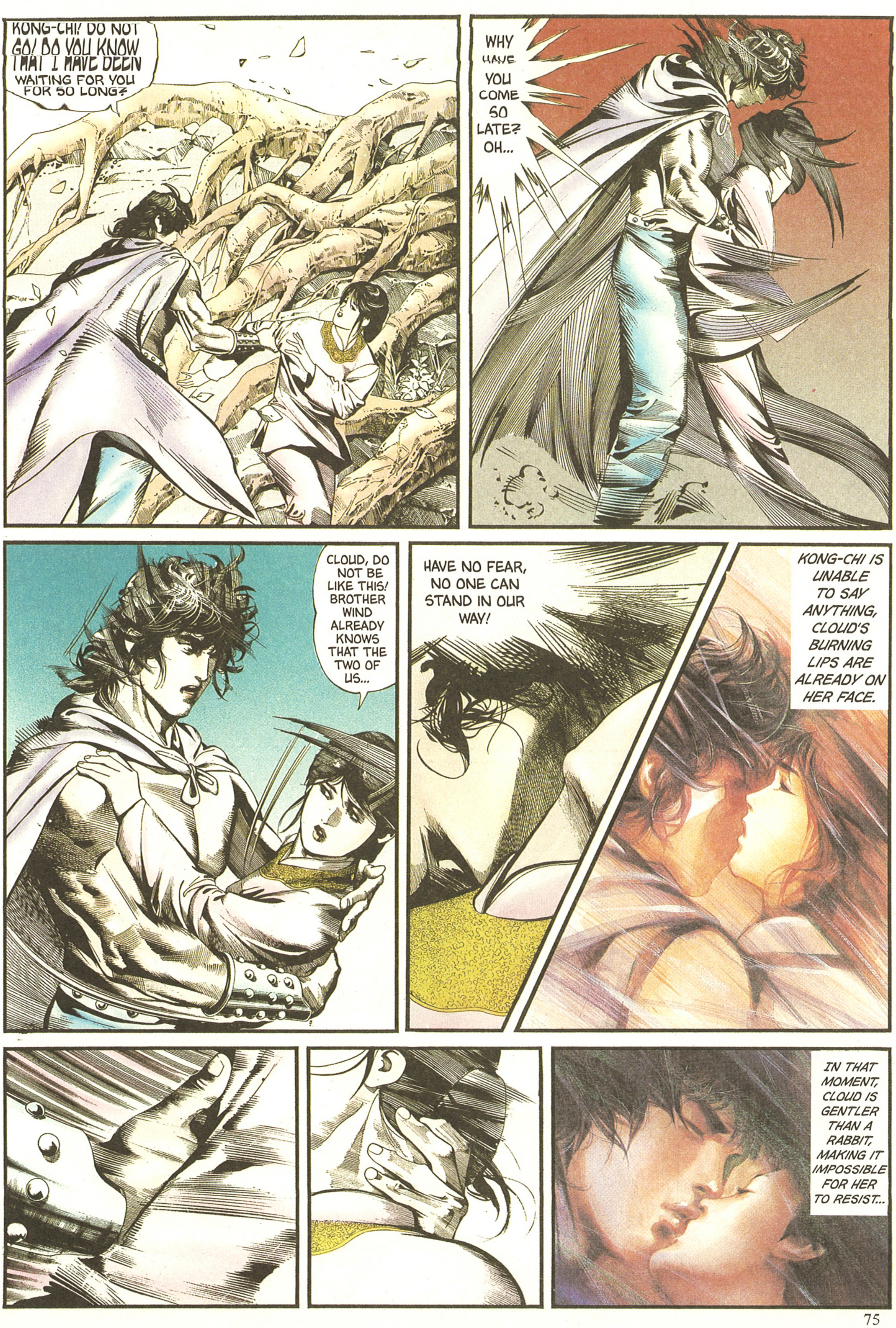

SORRY, I'M A LITTLE DRUNK!
THE SUNSET IS THICK LIKE BLOOD, AS IF FORECASTING TOMORROW'S CARNAGE...
WAS BROTHER CLOUD ALRIGHT?

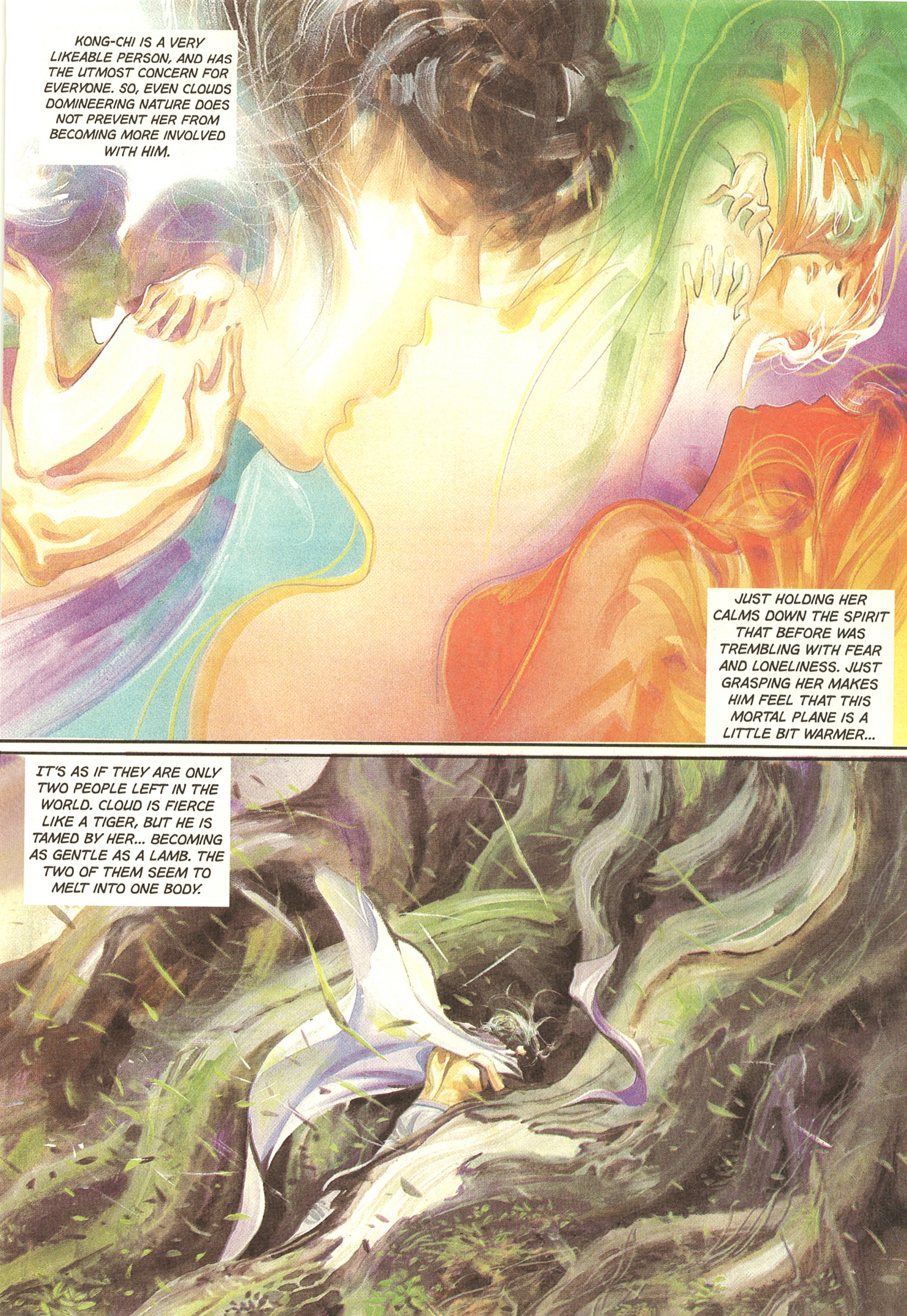

HE IS FATIGUED AND IS RESTING NOW!
YOU ARE ALL COMPLETELY USELESS!
TURN THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION INSIDE OUT, BUT FIND HER!
OTHERWISE YOU WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO COME BACK HERE!
飛雲堂

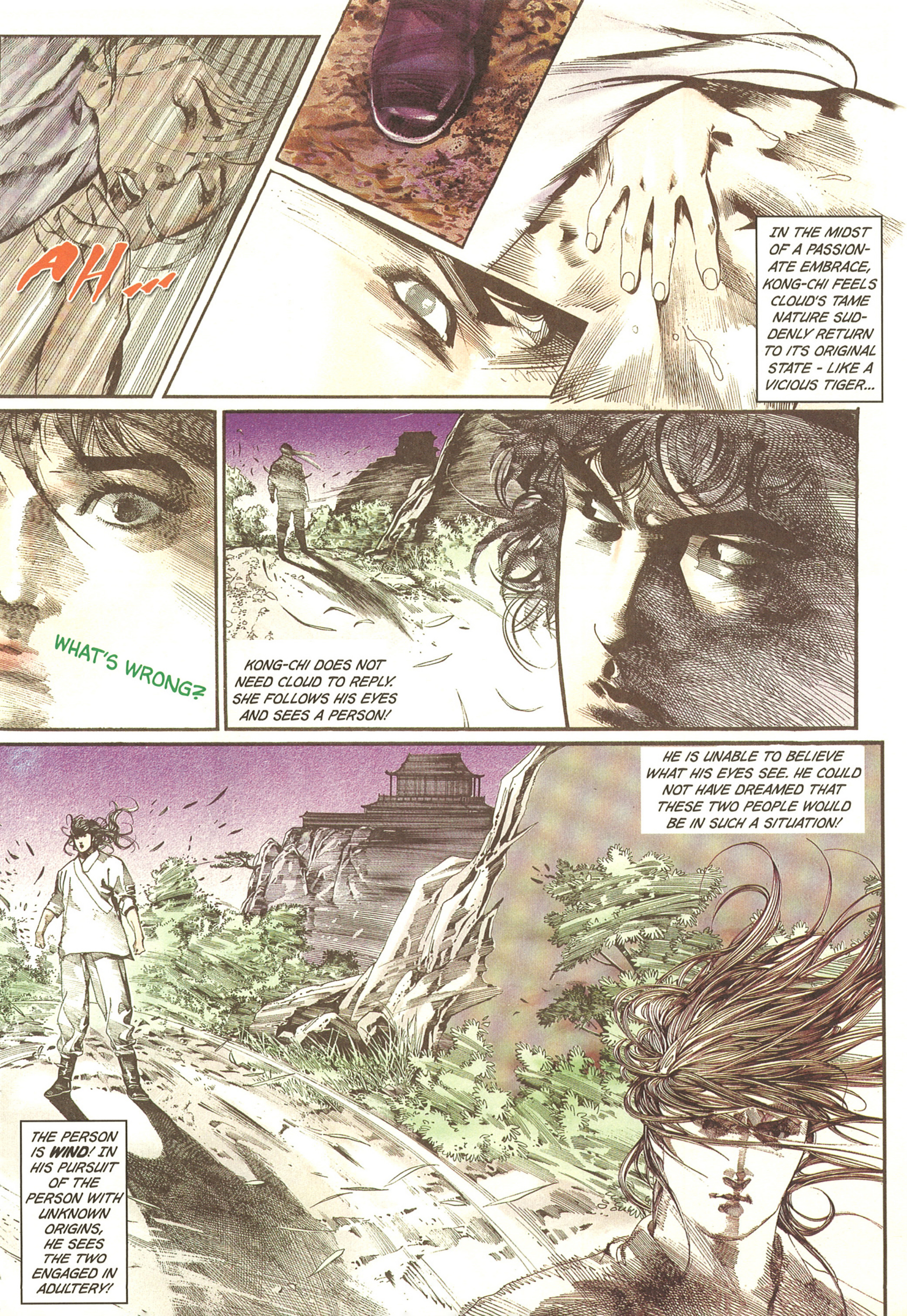

INSIDE THE BED CHAMBER, THE CANDLE'S IMAGE FLICKERS, REFLECTING CLOUD'S LIVID EXPRESSION.
HE CAN NOT REMAIN ALONE IN THIS DARK ROOM... HE NEEDS SOMEONE KIND TO CONSOLE HIM.
SINCE HE RETURNED FROM LIN-YIN CAVE, THE TERRIFYING AND VIVID IMAGE FROM THAT YEAR HAS CONTINUOUSLY BOTHERED HIM, SLOWLY ERODING HIS WILLPOWER. HE FEARS STAYING ALONE IN THIS ROOM, FACING HIS LONELINESS...

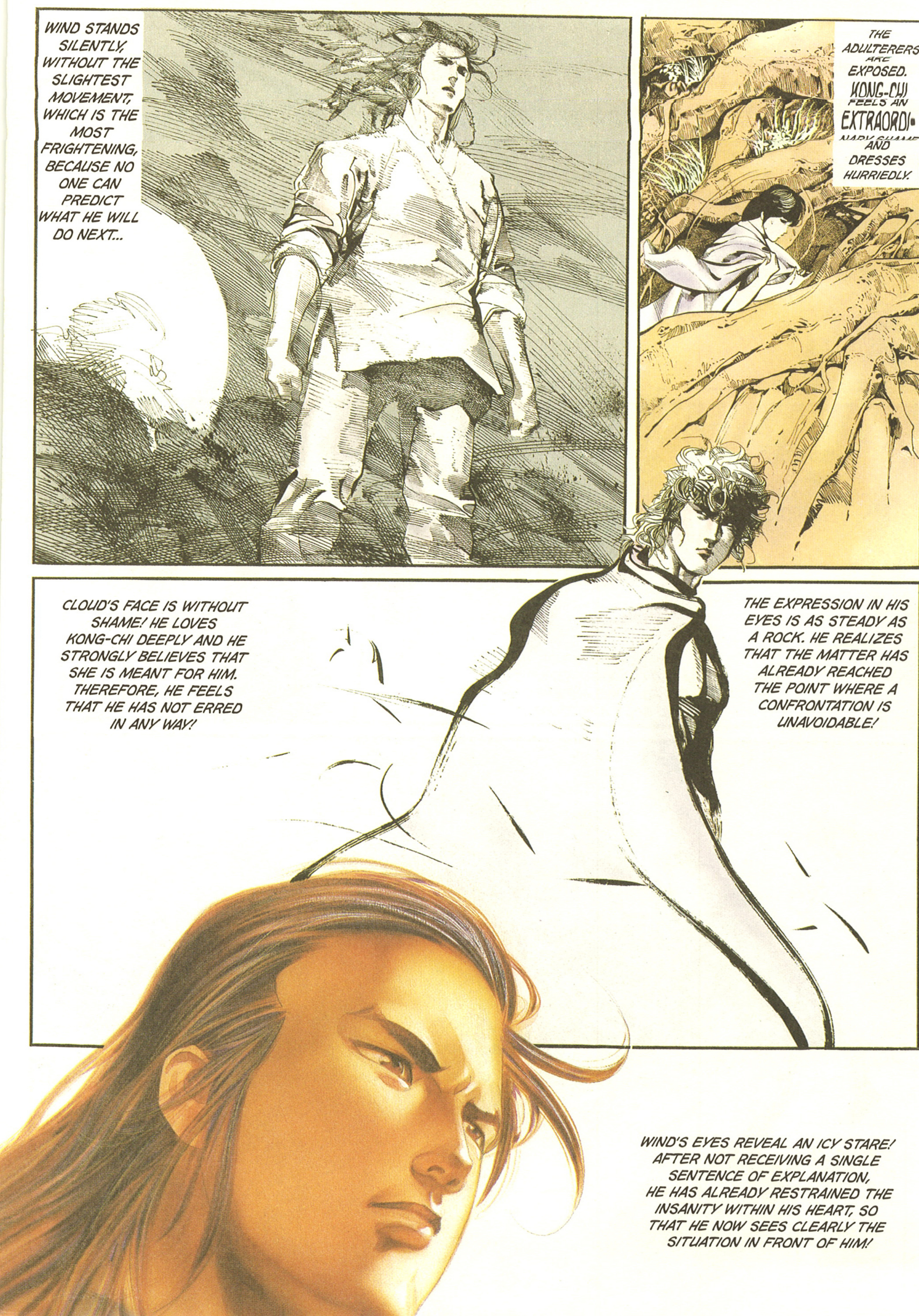

KONG-CHI!
WHOOSH
SLASH
THWACK

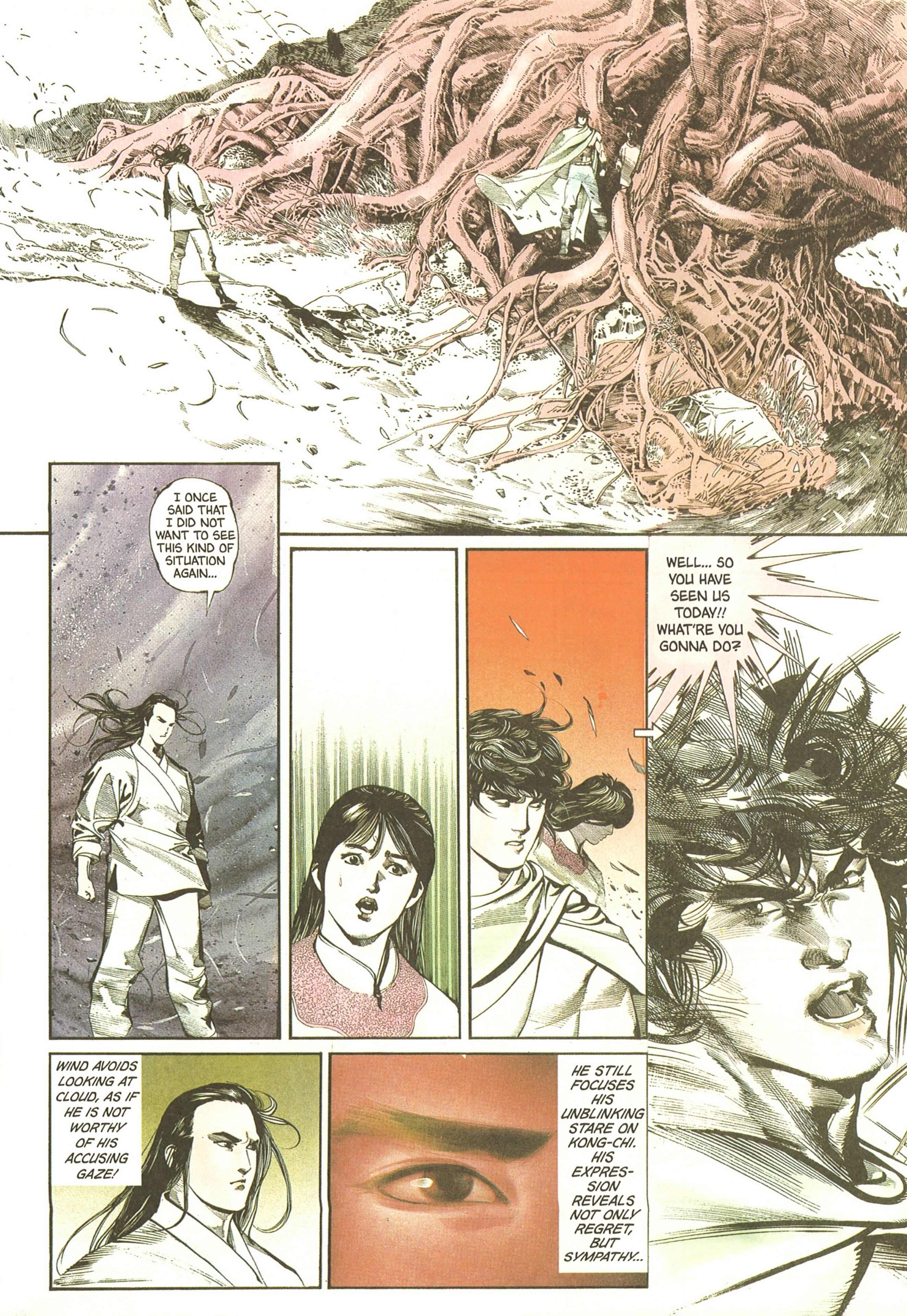

SWISH
KONG-CHI!

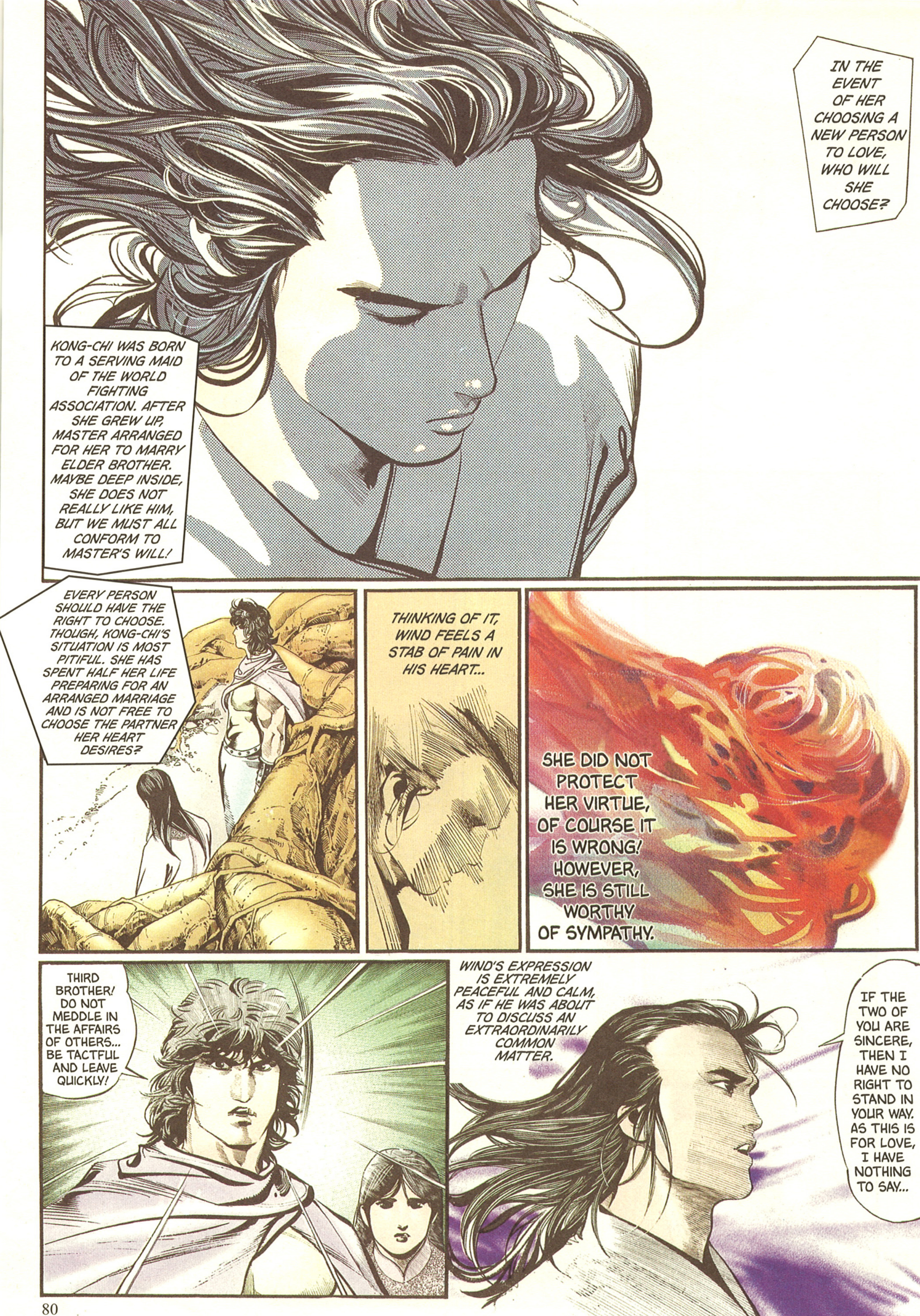

KONG-CHI! DO NOT GO! DO YOU KNOW THAT I HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU FOR SO LONG?
WHY HAVE YOU COME SO LATE? OH...
CLOUD, DO NOT BE LIKE THIS! BROTHER WIND ALREADY KNOWS THAT THE TWO OF US...
HAVE NO FEAR, NO ONE CAN STAND IN OUR WAY!
KONG-CHI IS UNABLE TO SAY ANYTHING, CLOUD'S BURNING LIPS ARE ALREADY ON HER FACE.
IN THAT MOMENT, CLOUD IS GENTLER THAN A RABBIT, MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR HER TO RESIST...

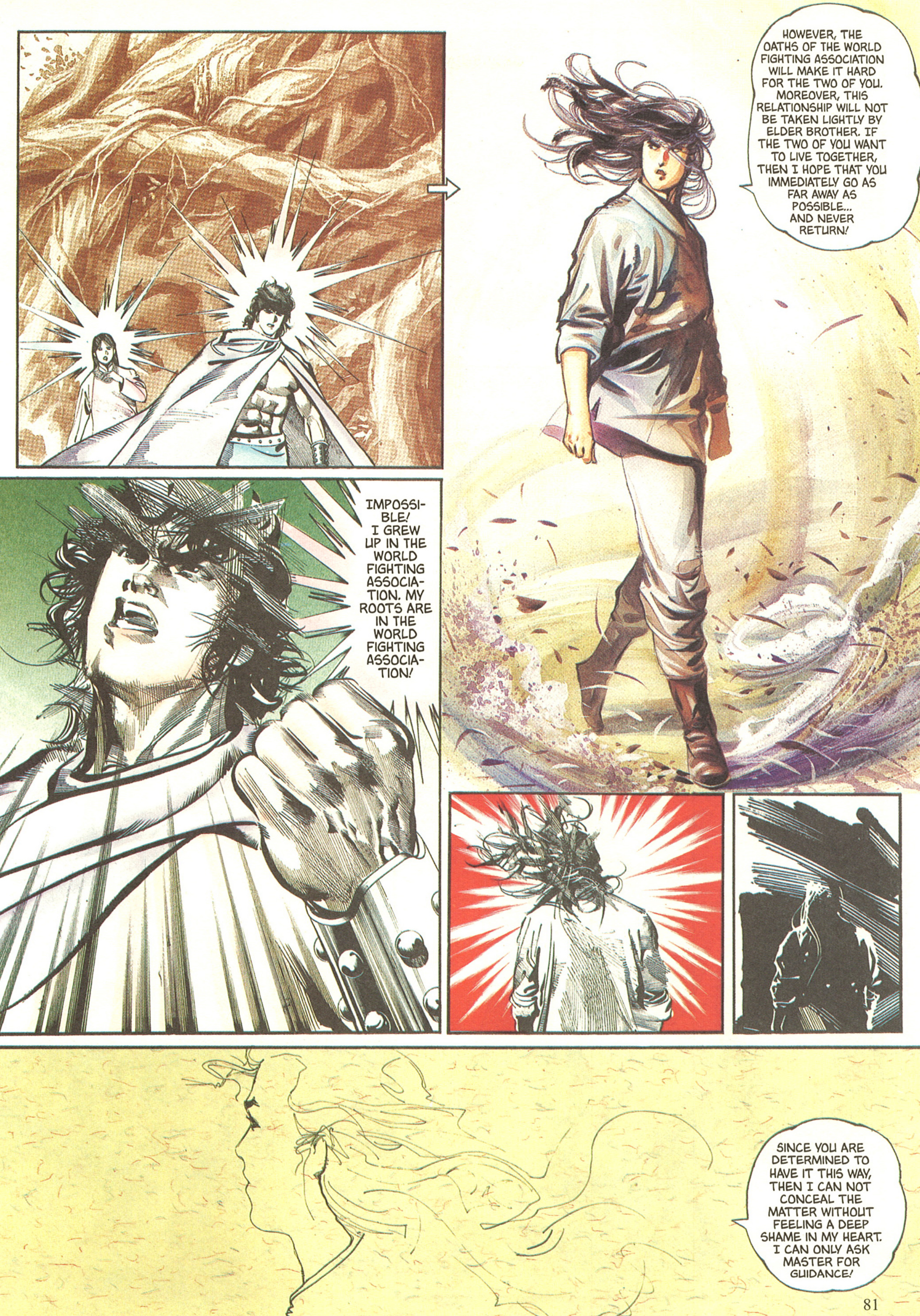

KONG-CHI IS A VERY LIKEABLE PERSON, AND HAS THE UTMOST CONCERN FOR EVERYONE. SO, EVEN CLOUDS DOMINEERING NATURE DOES NOT PREVENT HER FROM BECOMING MORE INVOLVED WITH HIM.
JUST HOLDING HER CALMS DOWN THE SPIRIT THAT BEFORE WAS TREMBLING WITH FEAR AND LONELINESS. JUST GRASPING HER MAKES HIM FEEL THAT THIS MORTAL PLANE IS A LITTLE BIT WARMER...
IT'S AS IF THEY ARE ONLY TWO PEOPLE LEFT IN THE WORLD. CLOUD IS FIERCE LIKE A TIGER, BUT HE IS TAMED BY HER... BECOMING AS GENTLE AS A LAMB. THE TWO OF THEM SEEM TO MELT INTO ONE BODY.

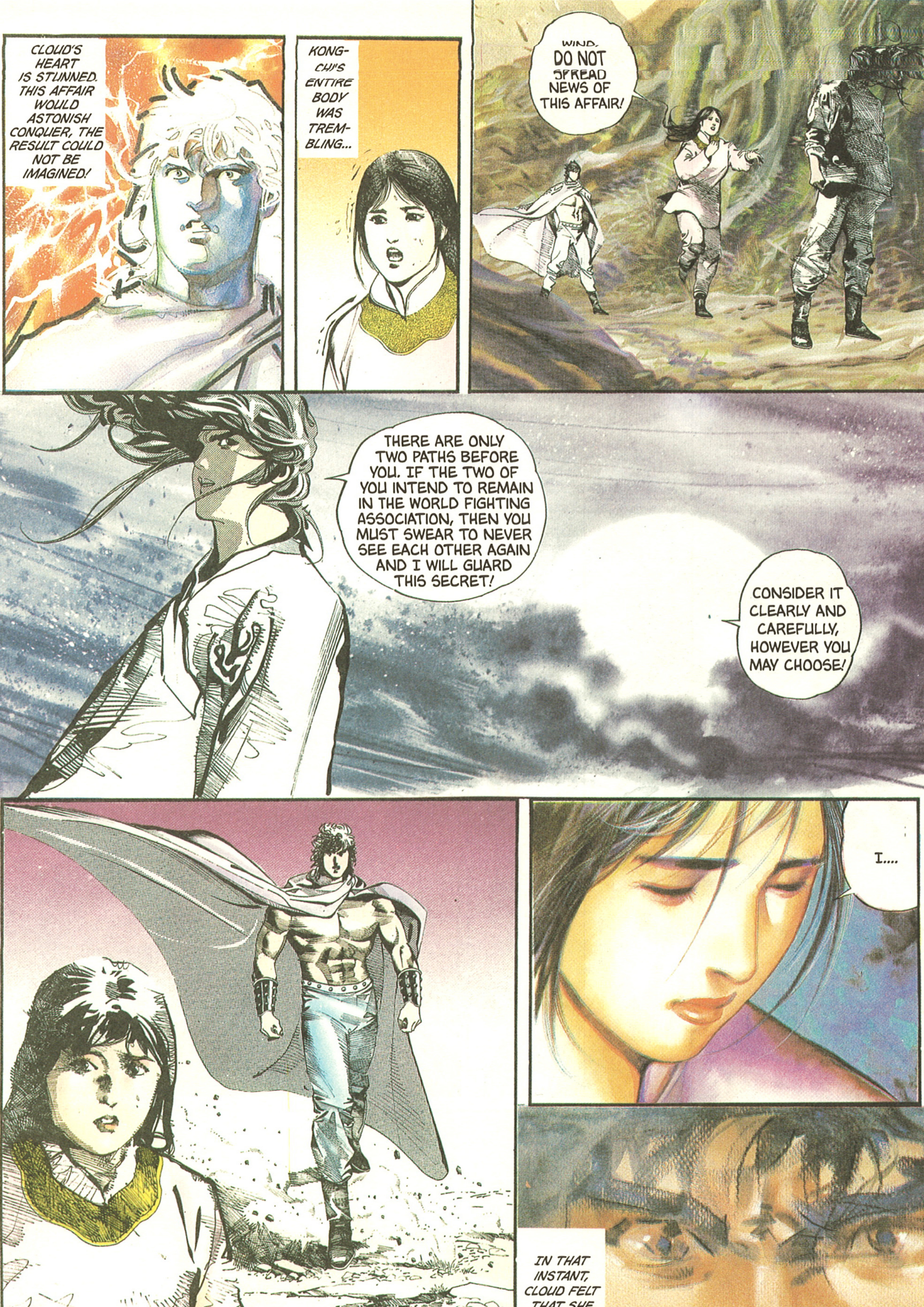

AH...
IN THE MIDST OF A PASSIONATE EMBRACE, KONG-CHI FEELS CLOUD'S TAME NATURE SUDDENLY RETURN TO ITS ORIGINAL STATE - LIKE A VICIOUS TIGER...
WHAT'S WRONG?
KONG-CHI DOES NOT NEED CLOUD TO REPLY. SHE FOLLOWS HIS EYES AND SEES A PERSON!
HE IS UNABLE TO BELIEVE WHAT HIS EYES SEE. HE COULD NOT HAVE DREAMED THAT THESE TWO PEOPLE WOULD BE IN SUCH A SITUATION!
THE PERSON IS WIND! IN HIS PURSUIT OF THE PERSON WITH UNKNOWN ORIGINS, HE SEES THE TWO ENGAGED IN ADULTERY!

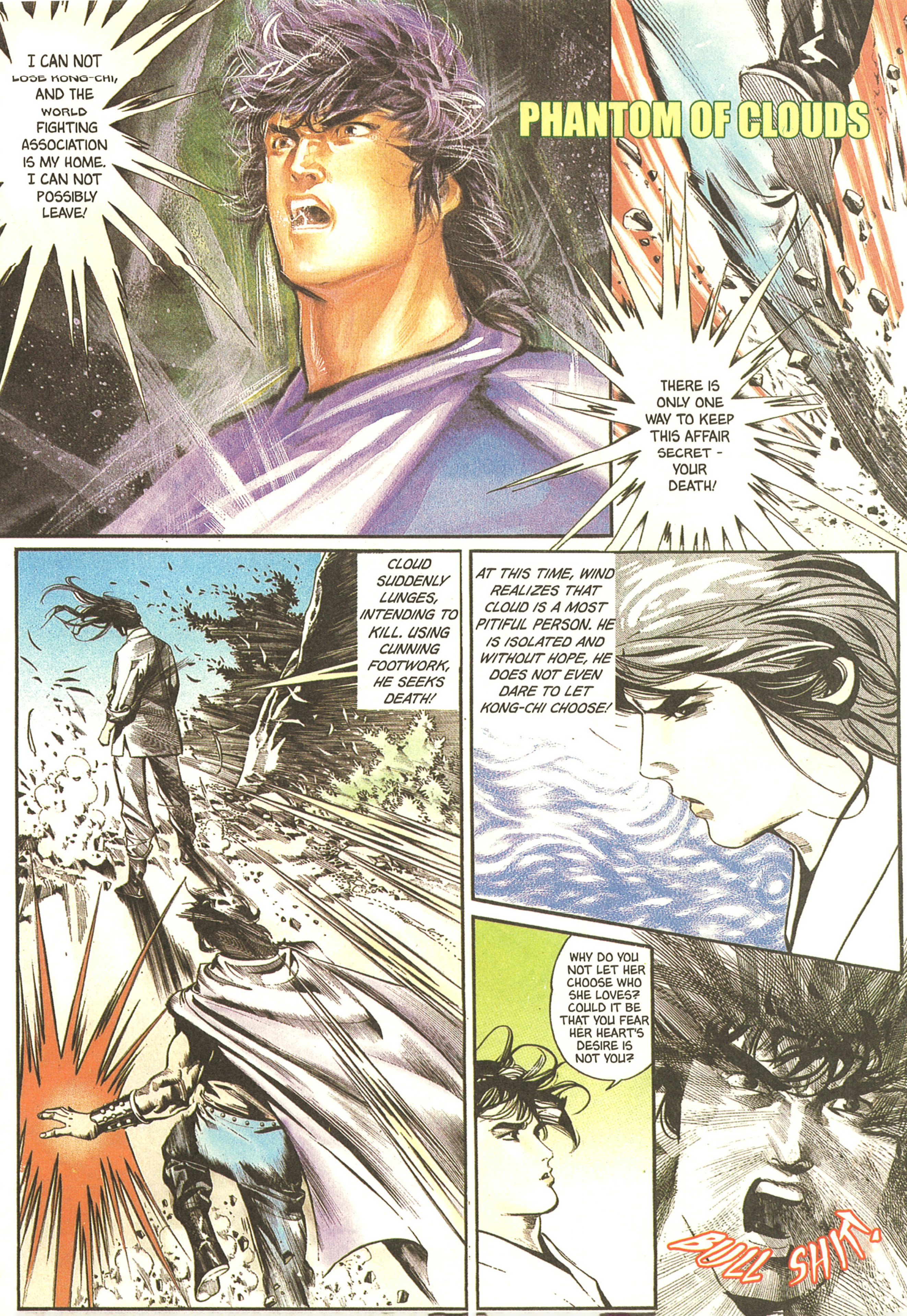

WIND STANDS SILENTLY, WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST MOVEMENT, WHICH IS THE MOST FRIGHTENING, BECAUSE NO ONE CAN PREDICT WHAT HE WILL DO NEXT...
THE ADULTERERS ARE EXPOSED. KONG-CHI FEELS AN EXTRAORDINARY SHAME AND DRESSES HURRIEDLY.
CLOUD'S FACE IS WITHOUT SHAME! HE LOVES KONG-CHI DEEPLY AND HE STRONGLY BELIEVES THAT SHE IS MEANT FOR HIM. THEREFORE, HE FEELS THAT HE HAS NOT ERRED IN ANY WAY!
THE EXPRESSION IN HIS EYES IS AS STEADY AS A ROCK. HE REALIZES THAT THE MATTER HAS ALREADY REACHED THE POINT WHERE A CONFRONTATION IS UNAVOIDABLE!
WIND'S EYES REVEAL AN ICY STARE! AFTER NOT RECEIVING A SINGLE SENTENCE OF EXPLANATION, HE HAS ALREADY RESTRAINED THE INSANITY WITHIN HIS HEART, SO THAT HE NOW SEES CLEARLY THE SITUATION IN FRONT OF HIM!

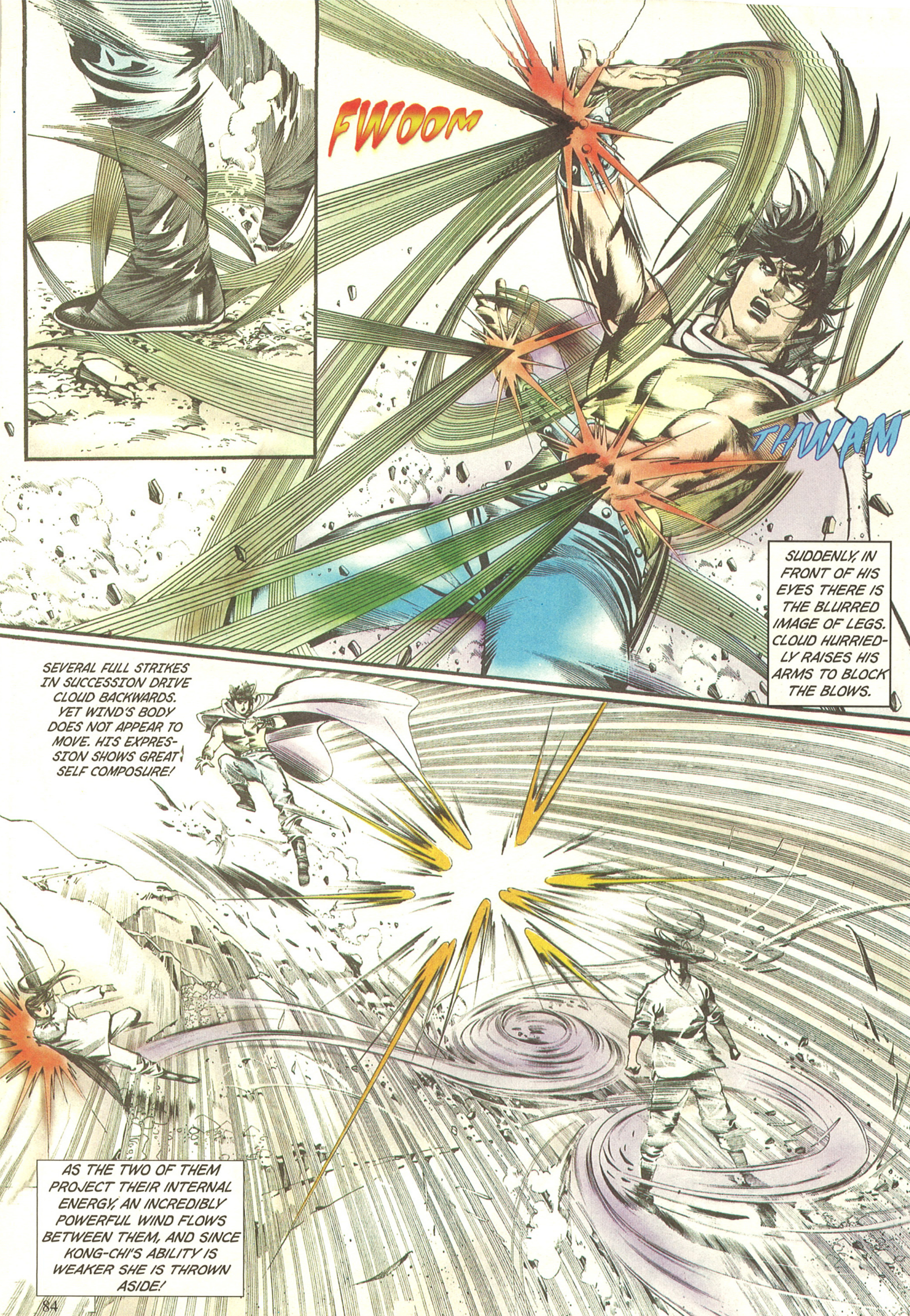

I ONCE SAID THAT I DID NOT WANT TO SEE THIS KIND OF SITUATION AGAIN...
WELL... SO YOU HAVE SEEN US TODAY!! WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO?
WIND AVOIDS LOOKING AT CLOUD, AS IF HE IS NOT WORTHY OF HIS ACCUSING GAZE!
HE STILL FOCUSES HIS UNBLINKING STARE ON KONG-CHI. HIS EXPRESSION REVEALS NOT ONLY REGRET, BUT SYMPATHY...


IN THE EVENT OF HER CHOOSING A NEW PERSON TO LOVE, WHO WILL SHE CHOOSE?
KONG-CHI WAS BORN TO A SERVING MAID OF THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION. AFTER SHE GREW UP, MASTER ARRANGED FOR HER TO MARRY ELDER BROTHER. MAYBE DEEP INSIDE, SHE DOES NOT REALLY LIKE HIM, BUT WE MUST ALL CONFORM TO MASTER'S WILL!
EVERY PERSON SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE. THOUGH, KONG-CHI'S SITUATION IS MOST PITIFUL. SHE HAS SPENT HALF HER LIFE PREPARING FOR AN ARRANGED MARRIAGE AND IS NOT FREE TO CHOOSE THE PARTNER HER HEART DESIRES?
THINKING OF IT, WIND FEELS A STAB OF PAIN IN HIS HEART...
SHE DID NOT PROTECT HER VIRTUE, OF COURSE IT IS WRONG! HOWEVER, SHE IS STILL WORTHY OF SYMPATHY.
THIRD BROTHER! DO NOT MEDDLE IN THE AFFAIRS OF OTHERS... BE TACTFUL AND LEAVE QUICKLY!
WIND'S EXPRESSION IS EXTREMELY PEACEFUL AND CALM, AS IF HE WAS ABOUT TO DISCUSS AN EXTRAORDINARILY COMMON MATTER.
IF THE TWO OF YOU ARE SINCERE, THEN I HAVE NO RIGHT TO STAND IN YOUR WAY. AS THIS IS FOR LOVE, I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY...


HOWEVER, THE OATHS OF THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION WILL MAKE IT HARD FOR THE TWO OF YOU. MOREOVER, THIS RELATIONSHIP WILL NOT BE TAKEN LIGHTLY BY ELDER BROTHER. IF THE TWO OF YOU WANT TO LIVE TOGETHER, THEN I HOPE THAT YOU IMMEDIATELY GO AS FAR AWAY AS POSSIBLE... AND NEVER RETURN!
IMPOSSIBLE! I GREW UP IN THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION. MY ROOTS ARE IN THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION!
SINCE YOU ARE DETERMINED TO HAVE IT THIS WAY, THEN I CAN NOT CONCEAL THE MATTER WITHOUT FEELING A DEEP SHAME IN MY HEART. I CAN ONLY ASK MASTER FOR GUIDANCE!


CLOUD'S HEART IS STUNNED. THIS AFFAIR WOULD ASTONISH CONQUER, THE RESULT COULD NOT BE IMAGINED!
KONG-CHI'S ENTIRE BODY WAS TREMBLING...
WIND, DO NOT SPREAD NEWS OF THIS AFFAIR!
THERE ARE ONLY TWO PATHS BEFORE YOU. IF THE TWO OF YOU INTEND TO REMAIN IN THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION, THEN YOU MUST SWEAR TO NEVER SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN AND I WILL GUARD THIS SECRET!
CONSIDER IT CLEARLY AND CAREFULLY, HOWEVER YOU MAY CHOOSE!
I....
IN THAT INSTANT, CLOUD FELT THAT SHE HAD ALREADY DECIDED....

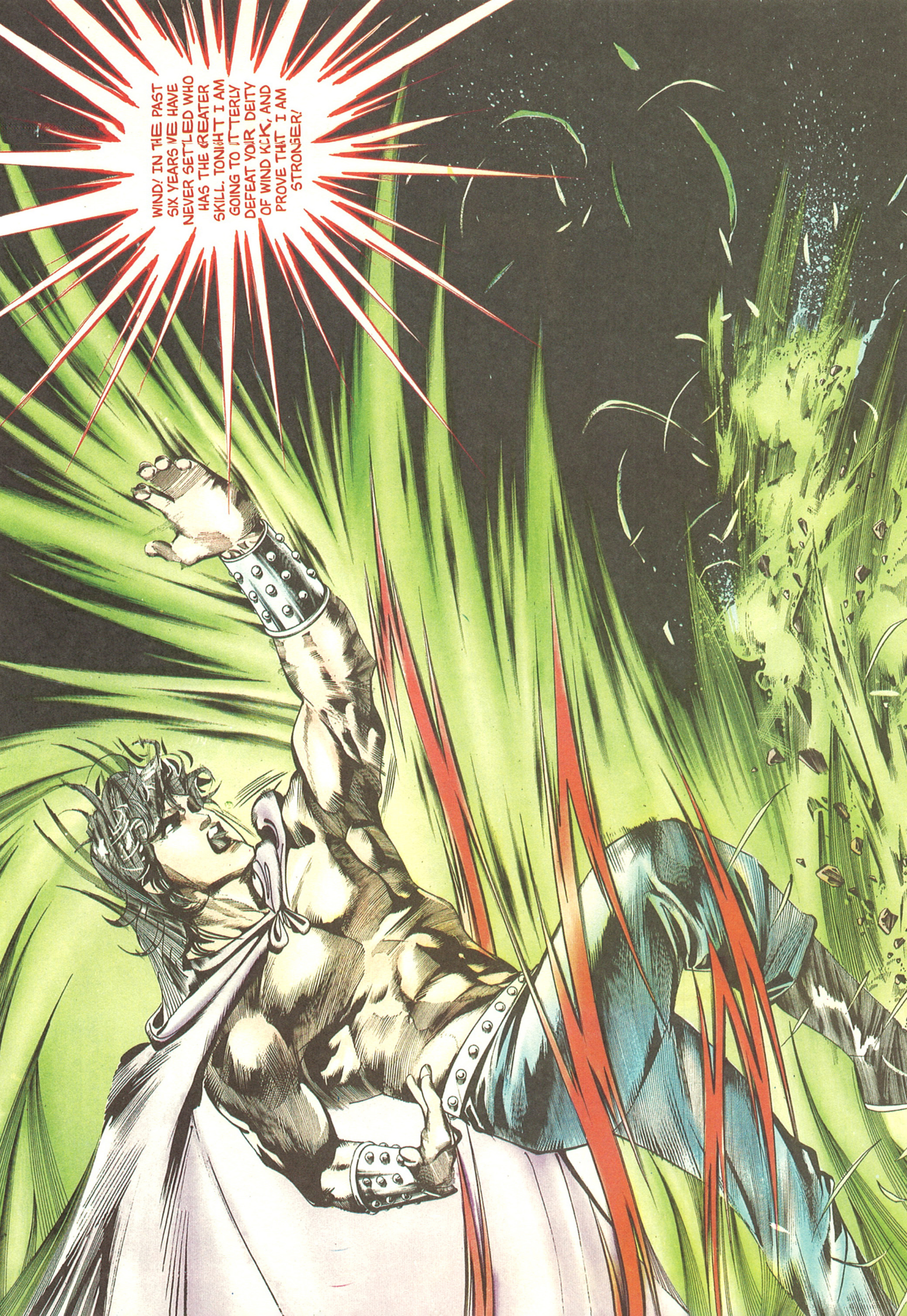

PHANTOM OF CLOUDS
I CAN NOT LOSE KONG-CHI, AND THE WORLD FIGHTING ASSOCIATION IS MY HOME. I CAN NOT POSSIBLY LEAVE!
THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO KEEP THIS AFFAIR SECRET - YOUR DEATH!
CLOUD SUDDENLY LUNGES, INTENDING TO KILL. USING CUNNING FOOTWORK, HE SEEKS DEATH!
AT THIS TIME, WIND REALIZES THAT CLOUD IS A MOST PITIFUL PERSON. HE IS ISOLATED AND WITHOUT HOPE, HE DOES NOT EVEN DARE TO LET KONG-CHI CHOOSE!
WHY DO YOU NOT LET HER CHOOSE WHO SHE LOVES? COULD IT BE THAT YOU FEAR HER HEART'S DESIRE IS NOT YOU?
BULL SHIT!

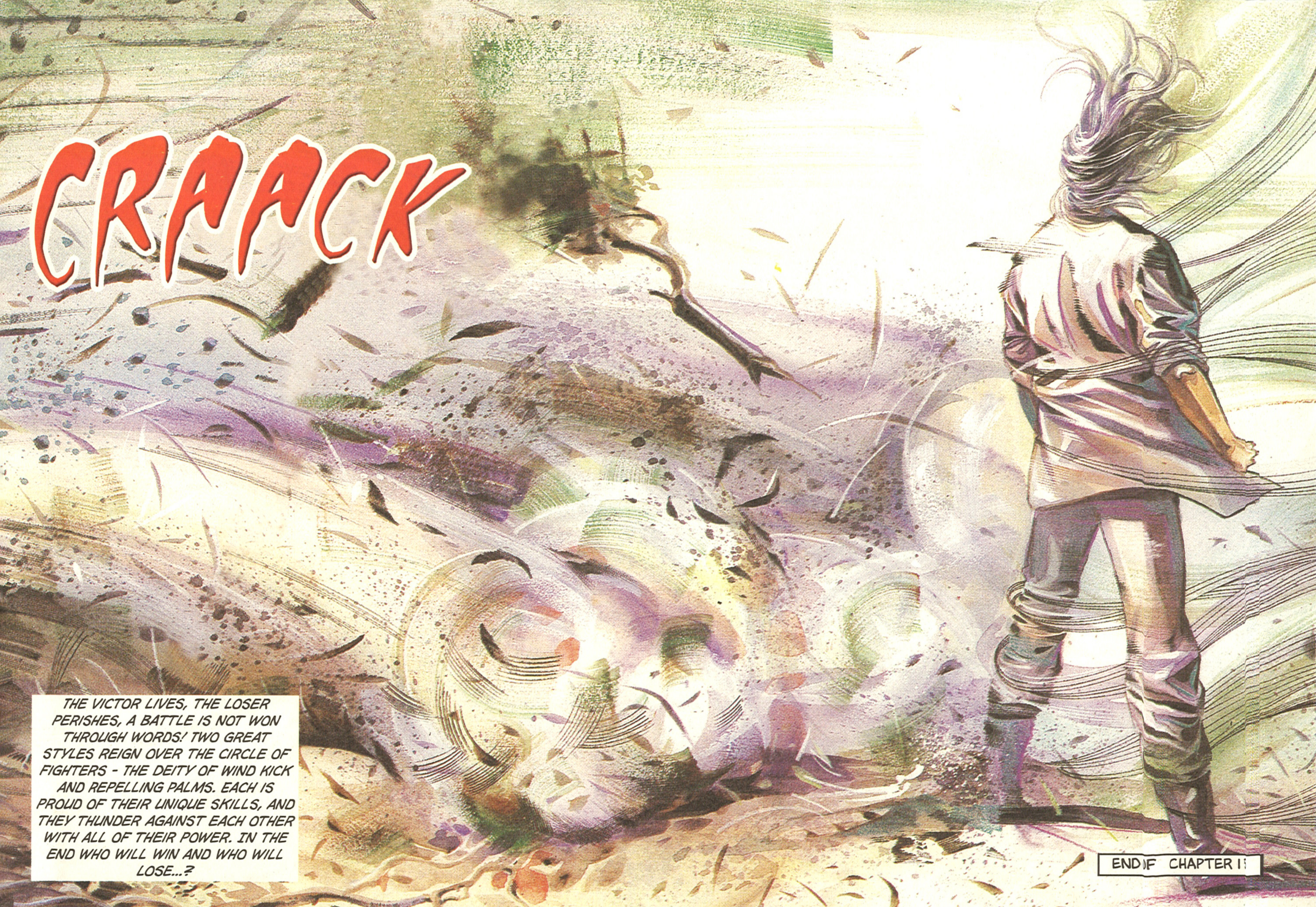


SUDDENLY, IN FRONT OF HIS EYES THERE IS THE BLURRED IMAGE OF LEGS. CLOUD HURRIEDLY RAISES HIS ARMS TO BLOCK THE BLOWS.

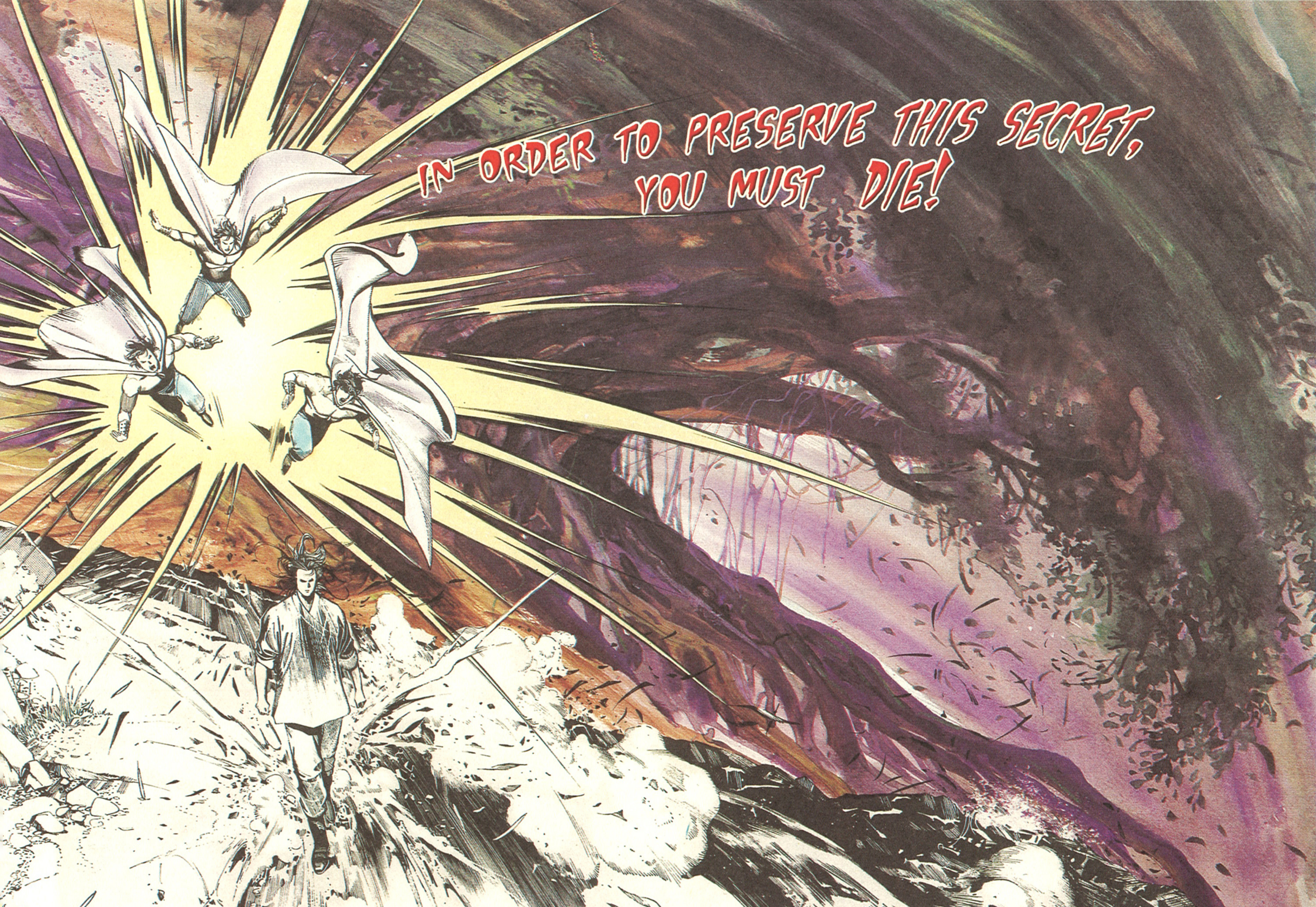
SEVERAL FULL STRIKES IN SUCCESSION DRIVE CLOUD BACKWARDS. YET WIND'S BODY DOES NOT APPEAR TO MOVE. HIS EXPRESSION SHOWS GREAT SELF COMPOSURE!

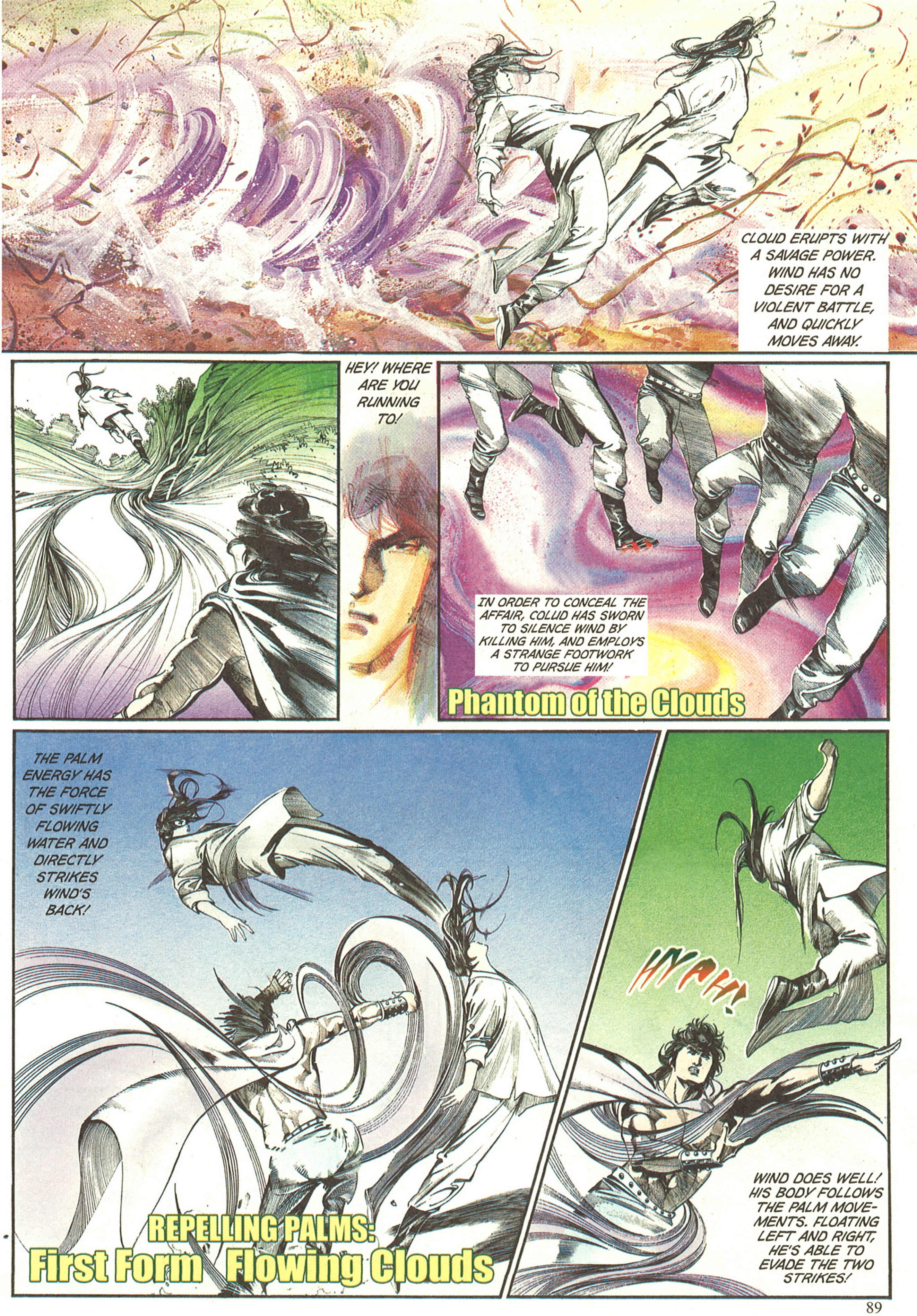
AS THE TWO OF THEM PROJECT THEIR INTERNAL ENERGY, AN INCREDIBLY POWERFUL WIND FLOWS BETWEEN THEM, AND SINCE KONG-CHI'S ABILITY IS WEAKER SHE IS THROWN ASIDE!

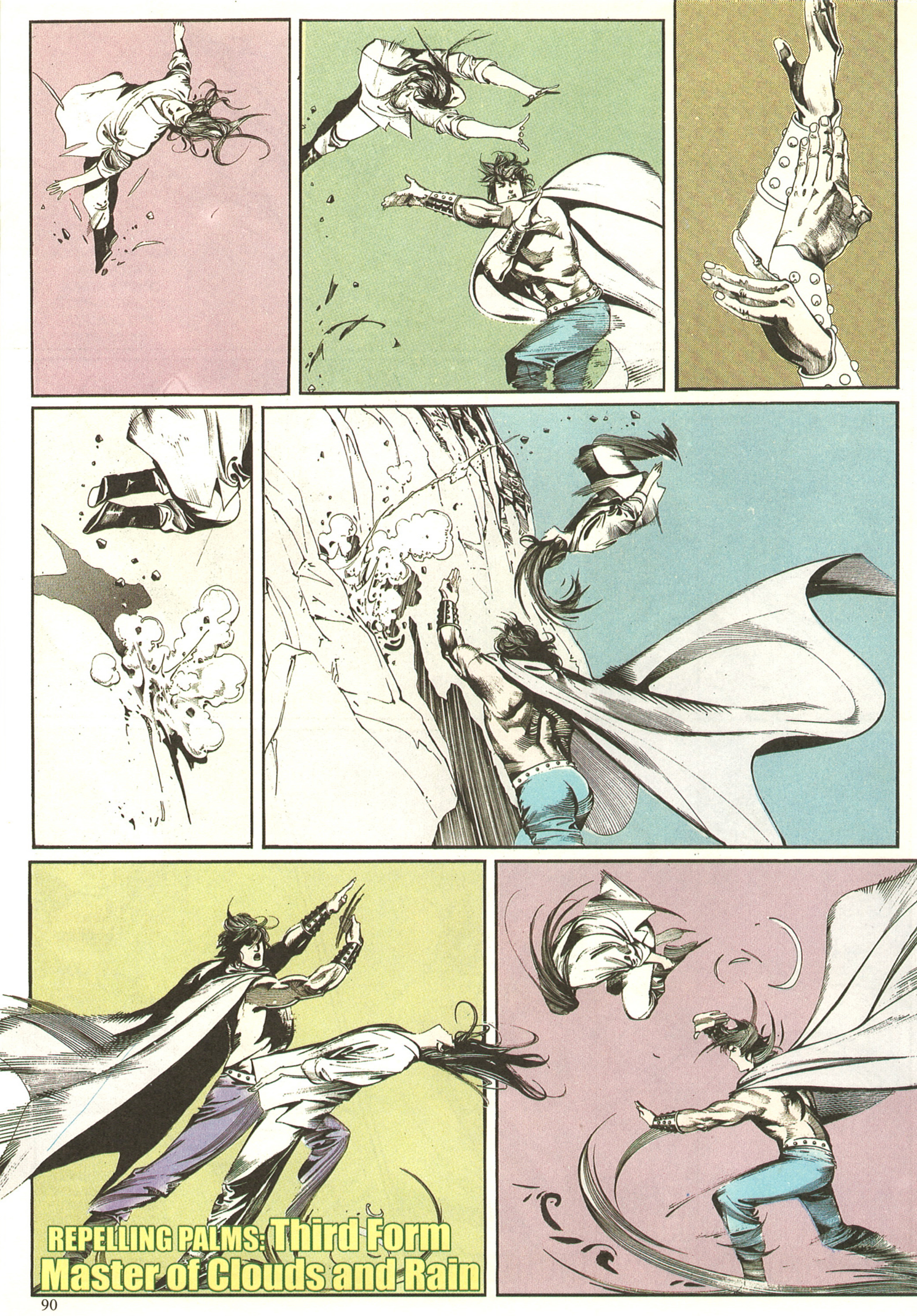

WIND! IN THE PAST SIX YEARS WE HAVE NEVER SETTLED WHO HAS THE GREATER SKILL. TONIGHT I AM GOING TO UTTERLY DEFEAT YOUR DEITY OF WIND KICK, AND PROVE THAT I AM STRONGER!

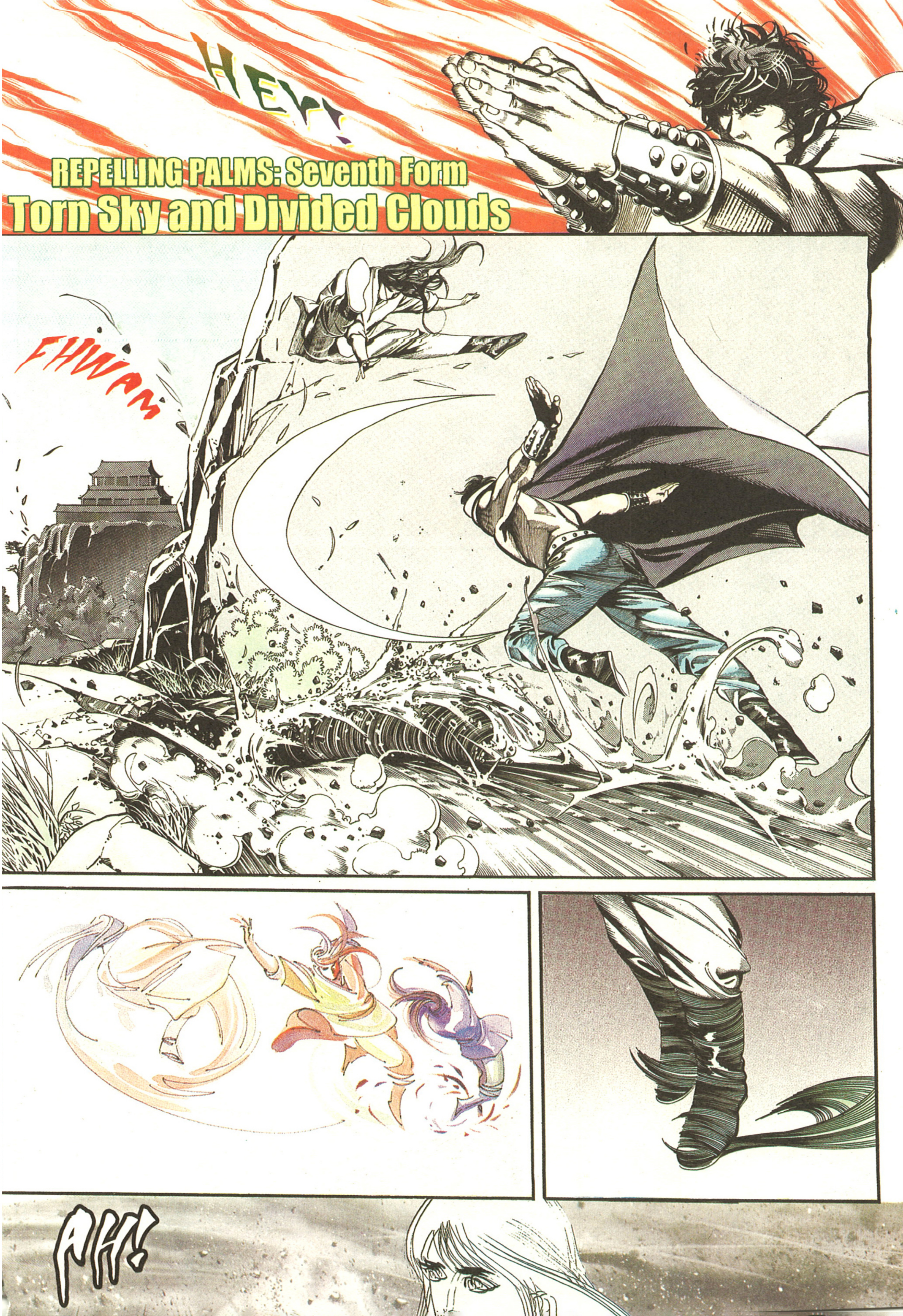

CRAACK
THE VICTOR LIVES, THE LOSER PERISHES, A BATTLE IS NOT WON THROUGH WORDS! TWO GREAT STYLES REIGN OVER THE CIRCLE OF FIGHTERS - THE DEITY OF WIND KICK AND REPELLING PALMS. EACH IS PROUD OF THEIR UNIQUE SKILLS, AND THEY THUNDER AGAINST EACH OTHER WITH ALL OF THEIR POWER. IN THE END WHO WILL WIN AND WHO WILL LOSE...?
END OF CHAPTER 1

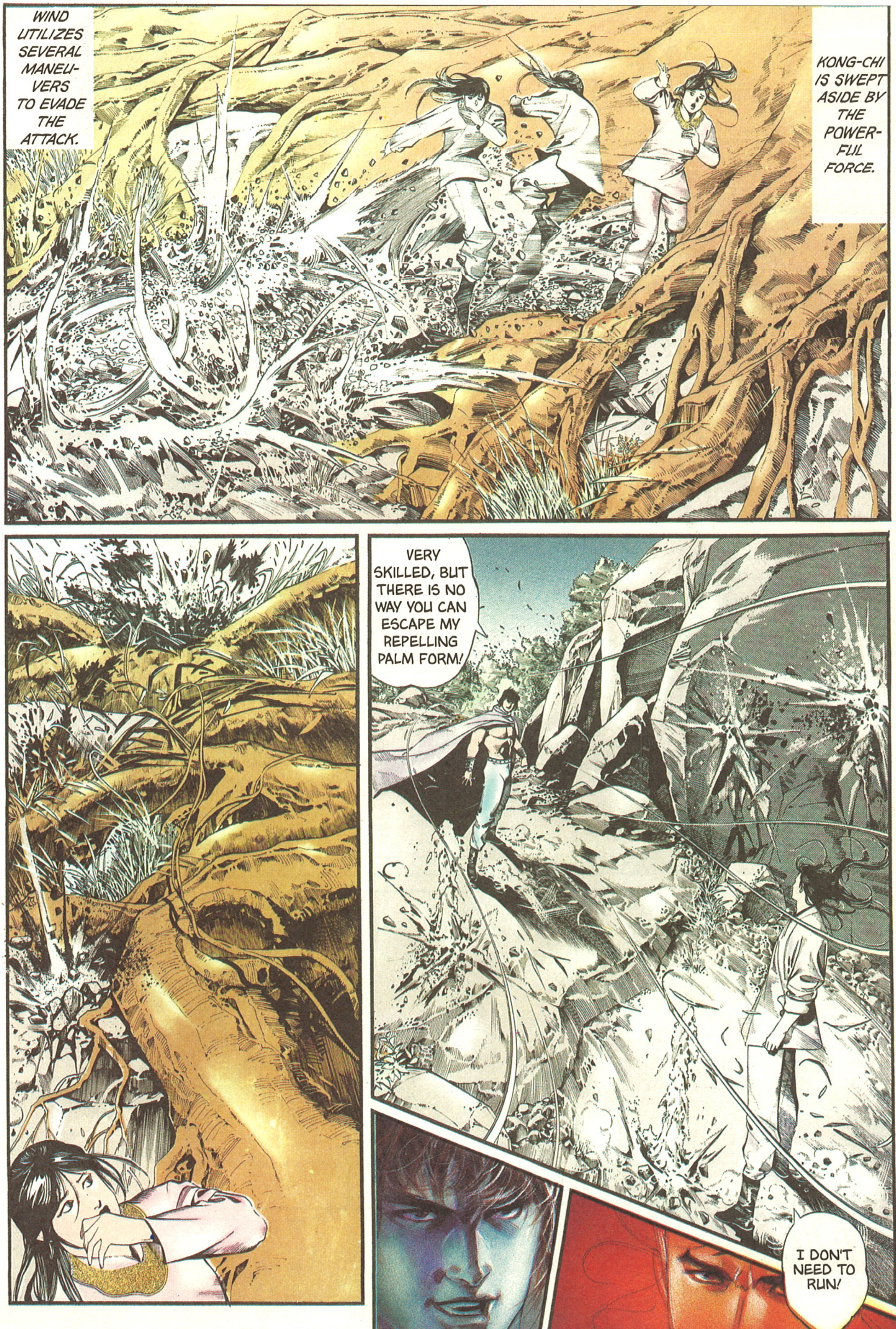
Chapter 19: Wind And Cloud Duel, Beauty blood

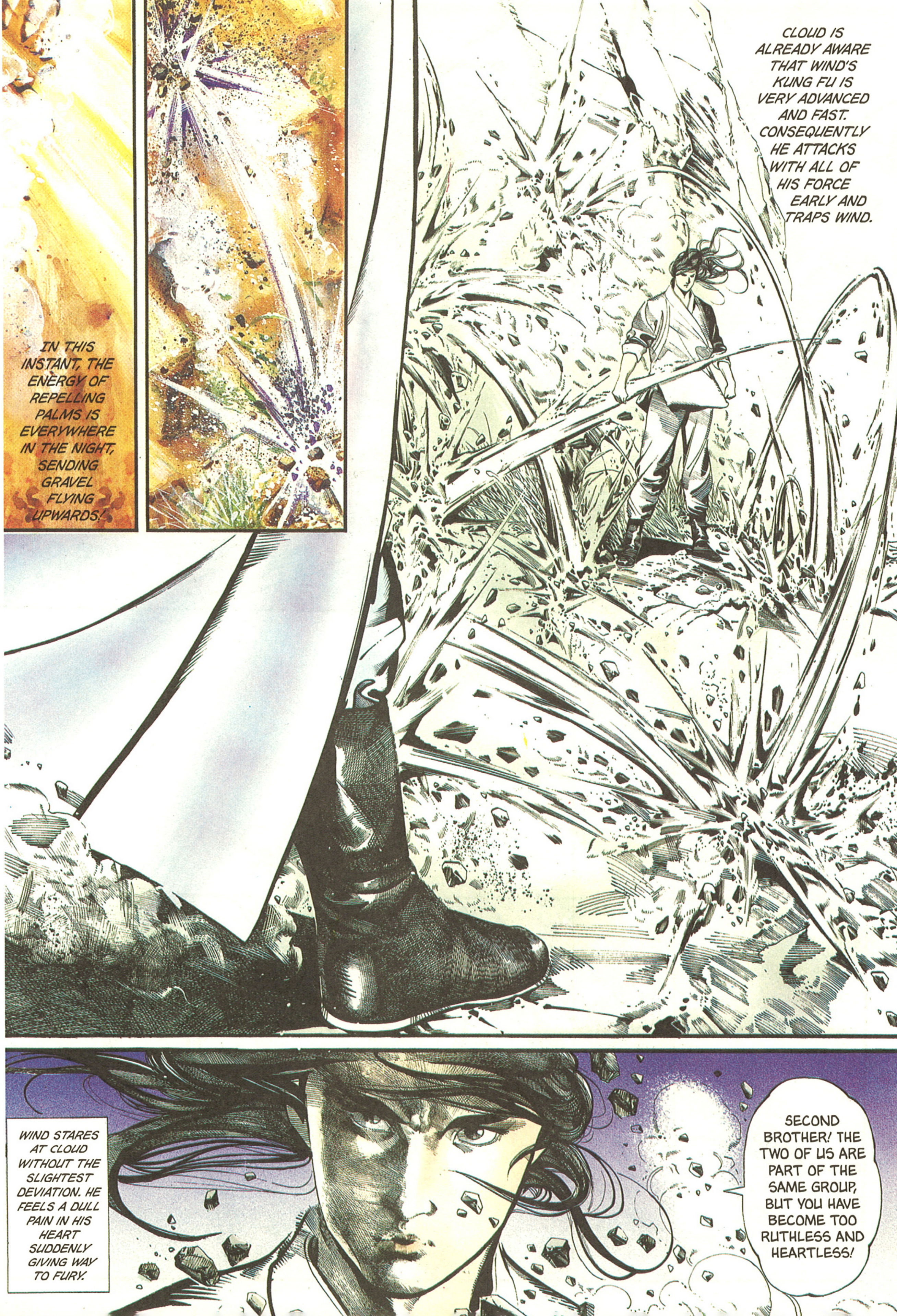

IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THIS SECRET, YOU MUST DIE!

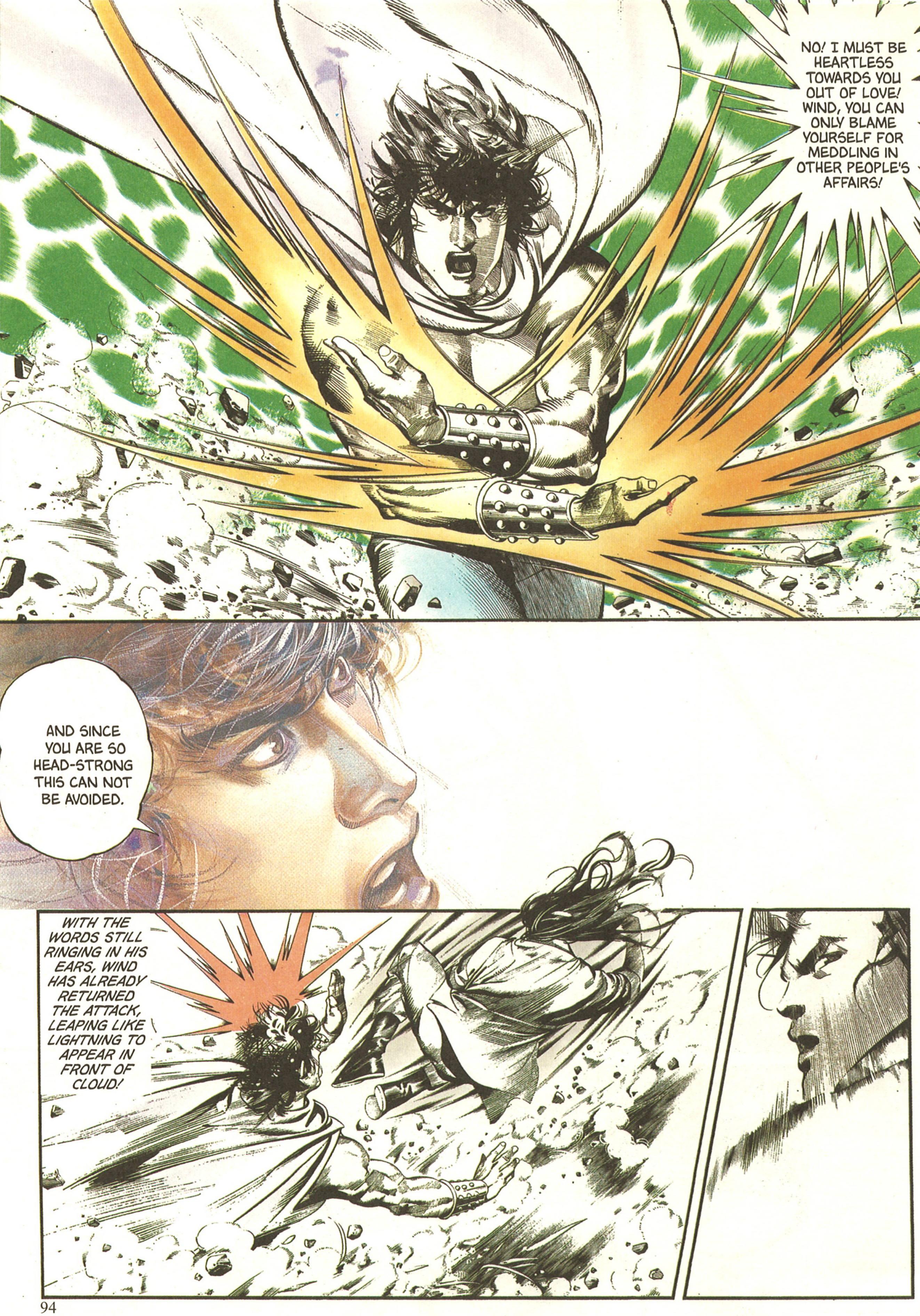

CLOUD ERUPTS WITH A SAVAGE POWER. WIND HAS NO DESIRE FOR A VIOLENT BATTLE, AND QUICKLY MOVES AWAY.
HEY! WHERE ARE YOU RUNNING TO!
IN ORDER TO CONCEAL THE AFFAIR, COLUD HAS SWORN TO SILENCE WIND BY KILLING HIM, AND EMPLOYS A STRANGE FOOTWORK TO PURSUE HIM!
Phantom of the Clouds
THE PALM ENERGY HAS THE FORCE OF SWIFTLY FLOWING WATER AND DIRECTLY STRIKES WIND'S BACK!
REPELLING PALMS:
First Form Flowing Clouds
HYAH!
WIND DOES WELL! HIS BODY FOLLOWS THE PALM MOVEMENTS. FLOATING LEFT AND RIGHT, HE'S ABLE TO EVADE THE TWO STRIKES!

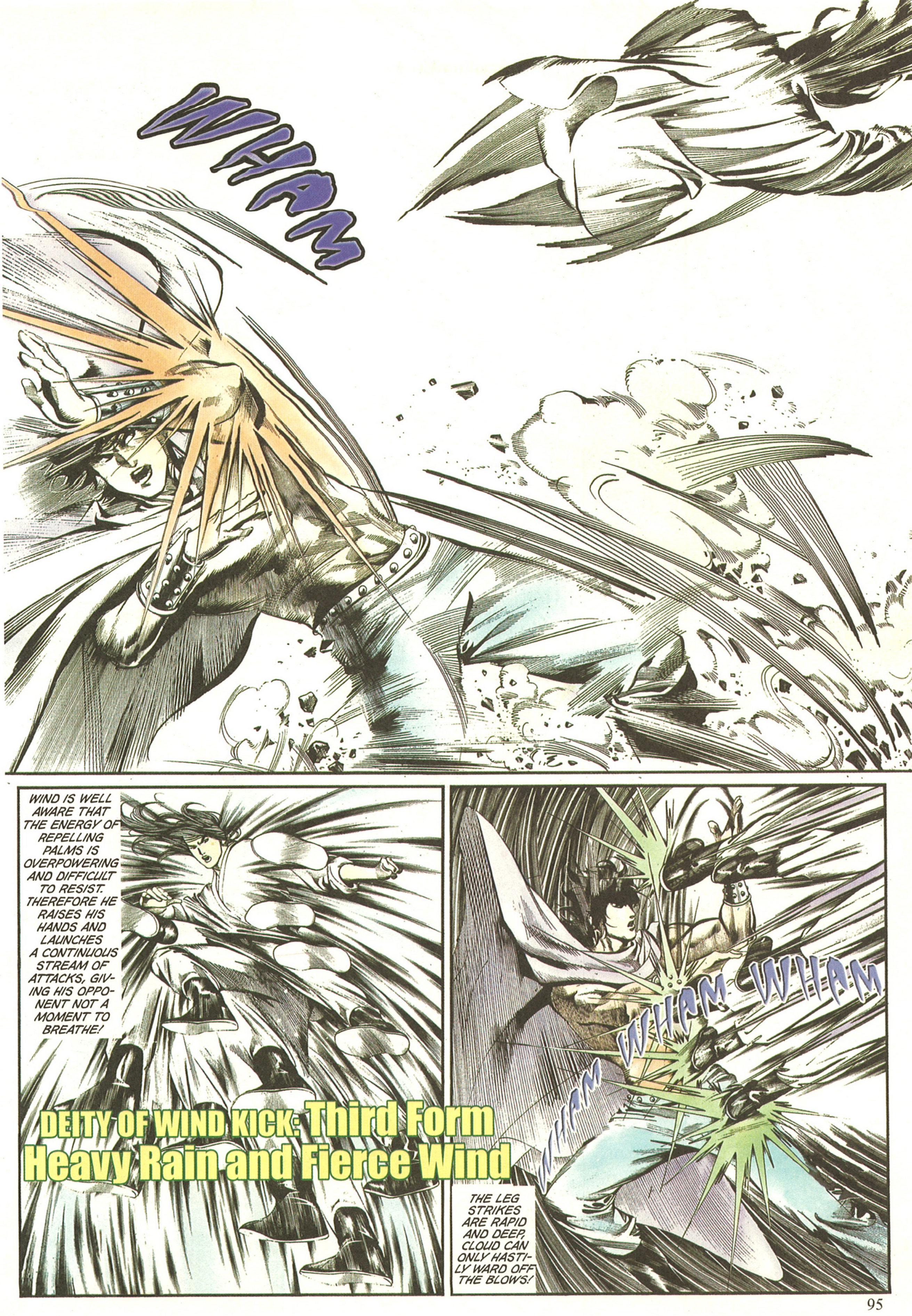

REPELLING PALMS: Third Form
Master of Clouds and Rain

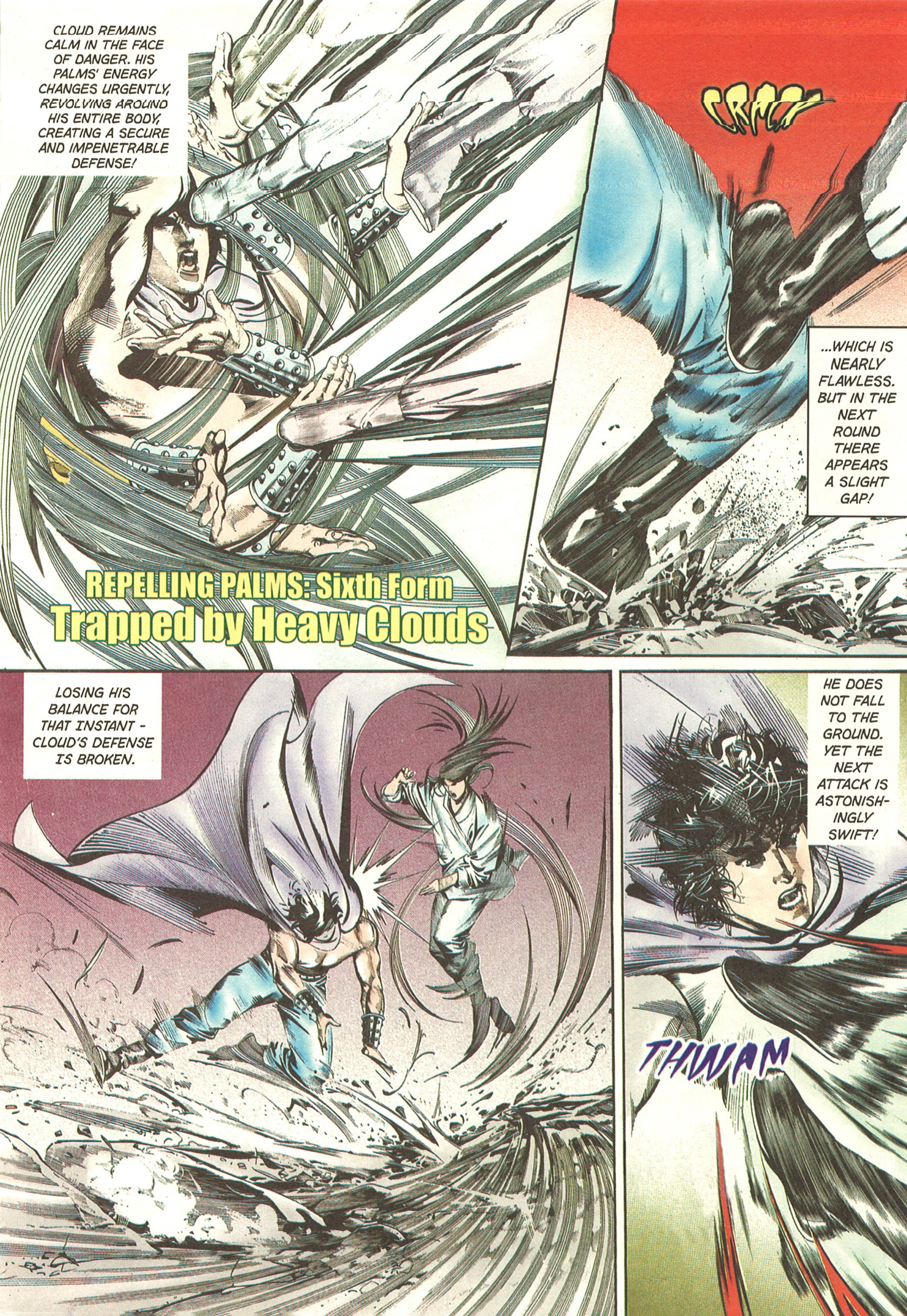

HEY!
REPELLING PALMS: Seventh Form
Torn Sky and Divided Clouds
FHWAM
AH!

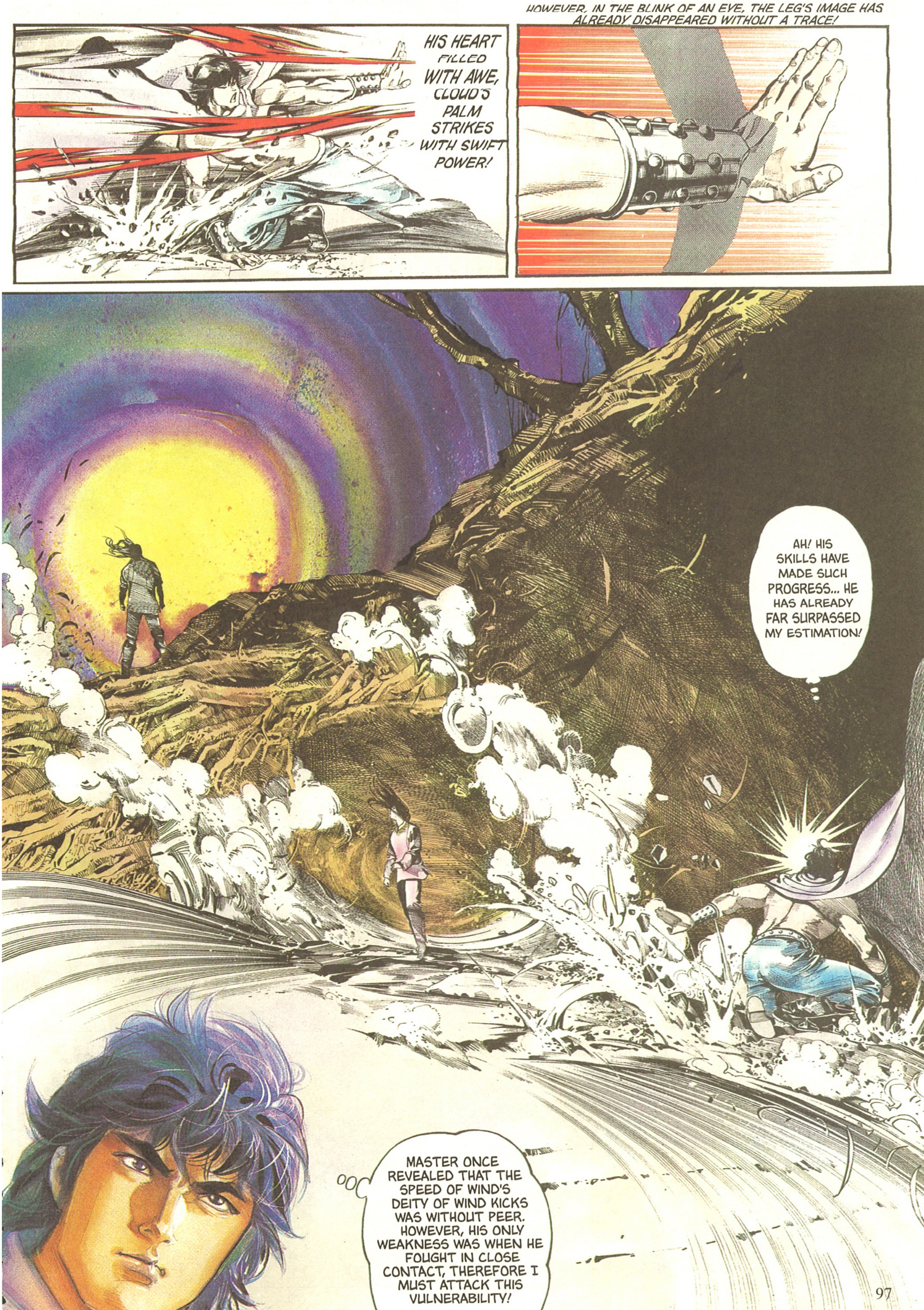

WIND UTILIZES SEVERAL MANEUVERS TO EVADE THE ATTACK.
KONG-CHI IS SWEPT ASIDE BY THE POWERFUL FORCE.
VERY SKILLED, BUT THERE IS NO WAY YOU CAN ESCAPE MY REPELLING PALM FORM!
I DON'T NEED TO RUN!

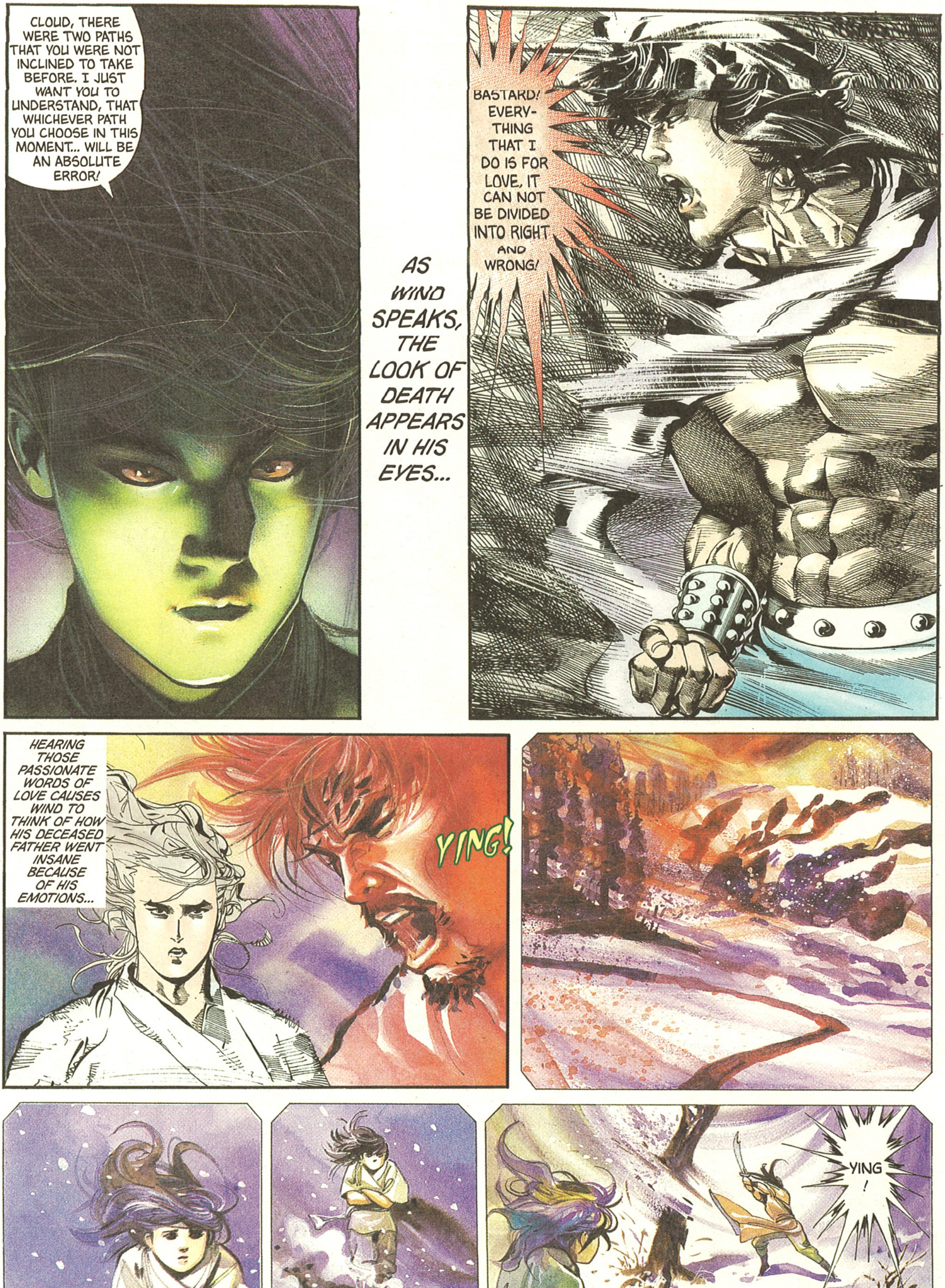

IN THIS INSTANT, THE ENERGY OF REPELLING PALMS IS EVERYWHERE IN THE NIGHT, SENDING GRAVEL FLYING UPWARDS!
CLOUD IS ALREADY AWARE THAT WIND'S KUNG FU IS VERY ADVANCED AND FAST. CONSEQUENTLY HE ATTACKS WITH ALL OF HIS FORCE EARLY AND TRAPS WIND.
WIND STARES AT CLOUD WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST DEVIATION. HE FEELS A DULL PAIN IN HIS HEART SUDDENLY GIVING WAY TO FURY.
SECOND BROTHER! THE TWO OF US ARE PART OF THE SAME GROUP, BUT YOU HAVE BECOME TOO RUTHLESS AND HEARTLESS!

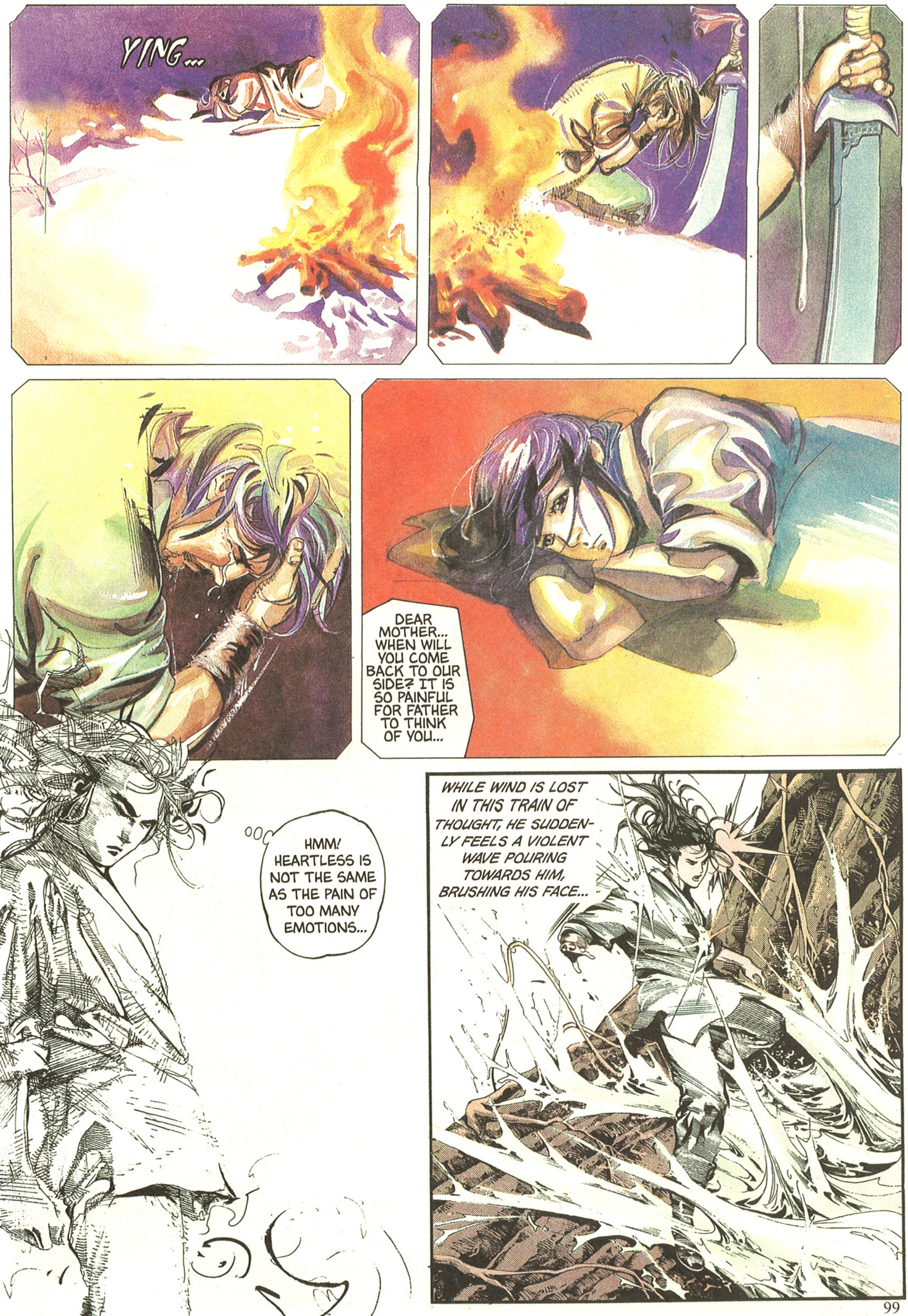

NO! I MUST BE HEARTLESS TOWARDS YOU OUT OF LOVE! WIND, YOU CAN ONLY BLAME YOURSELF FOR MEDDLING IN OTHER PEOPLE'S AFFAIRS!
AND SINCE YOU ARE SO HEAD-STRONG THIS CAN NOT BE AVOIDED.
WITH THE WORDS STILL RINGING IN HIS EARS, WIND HAS ALREADY RETURNED THE ATTACK, LEAPING LIKE LIGHTNING TO APPEAR IN FRONT OF CLOUD!

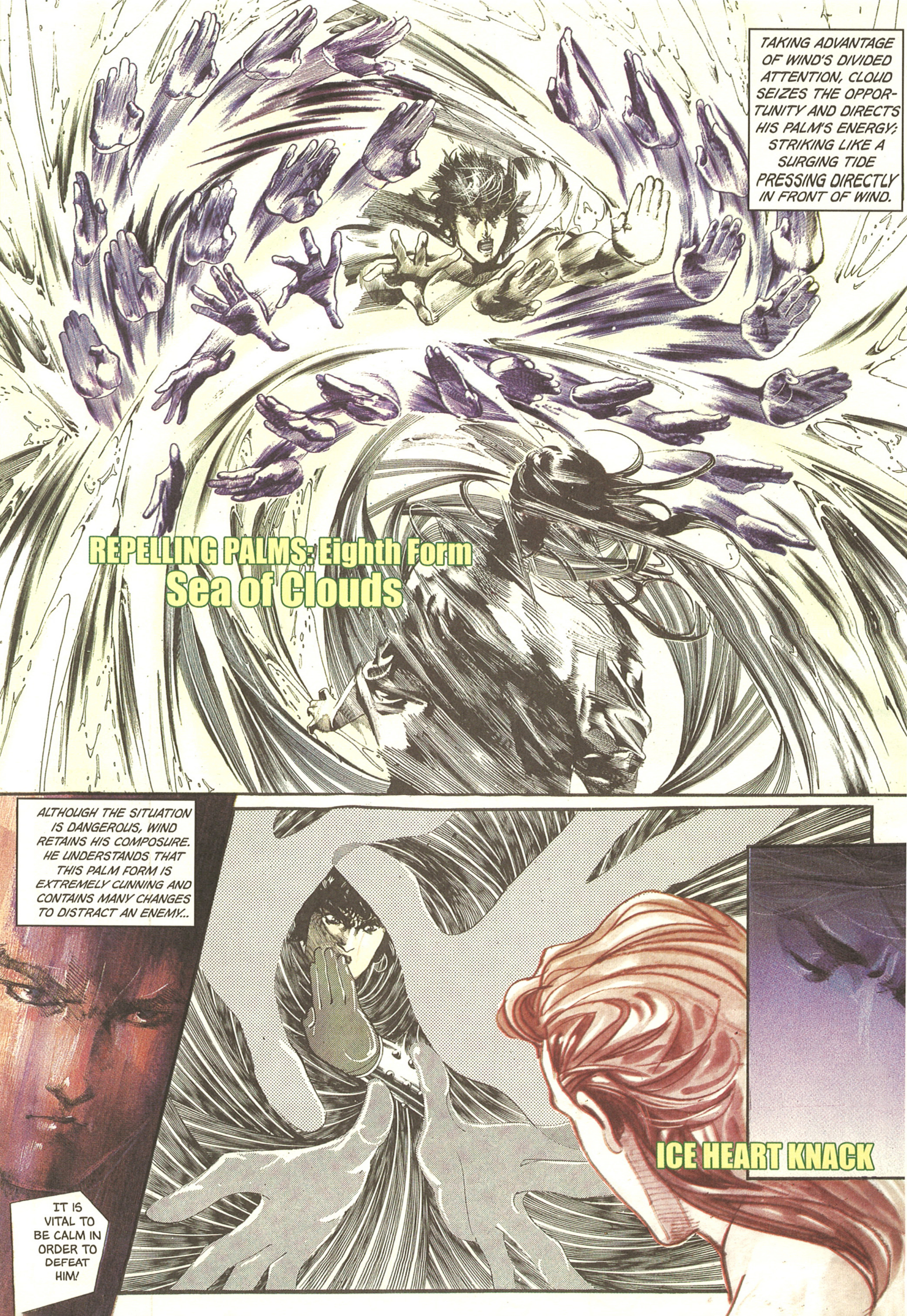

WHAM
WIND IS WELL AWARE THAT THE ENERGY OF REPELLING PALMS IS OVERPOWERING AND DIFFICULT TO RESIST. THEREFORE HE RAISES HIS HANDS AND LAUNCHES A CONTINUOUS STREAM OF ATTACKS, GIVING HIS OPPONENT NOT A MOMENT TO BREATHE!
DEITY OF WIND KICK: Third Form
Heavy Rain and Fierce Wind
WHAM WHAM WHAM WHAM
THE LEG STRIKES ARE RAPID AND DEEP, CLOUD CAN ONLY HASTILY WARD OFF THE BLOWS!

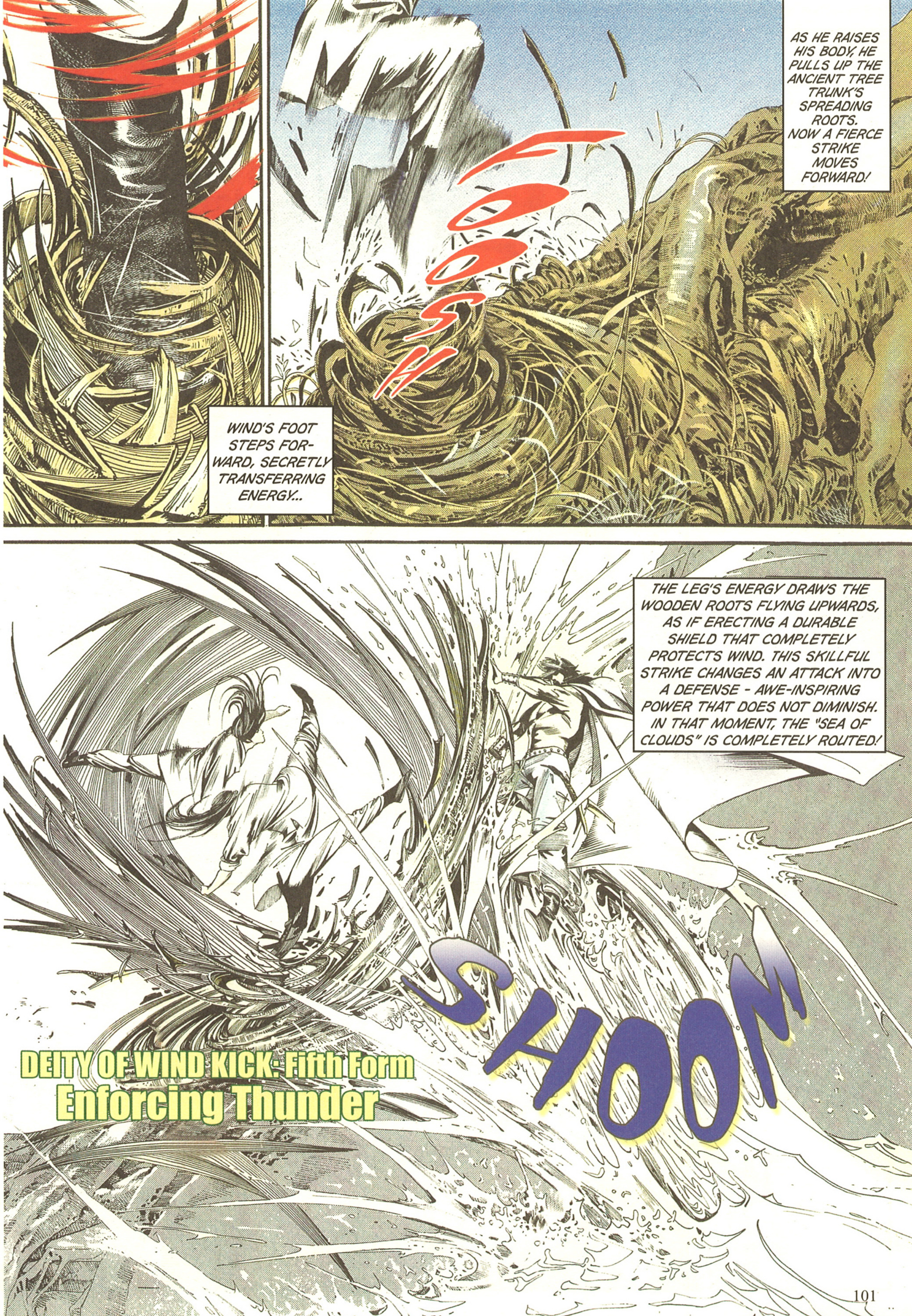

CLOUD REMAINS CALM IN THE FACE OF DANGER. HIS PALMS' ENERGY CHANGES URGENTLY, REVOLVING AROUND HIS ENTIRE BODY, CREATING A SECURE AND IMPENETRABLE DEFENSE!
REPELLING PALMS: Sixth Form
Trapped by Heavy Clouds
CRACK
...WHICH IS NEARLY FLAWLESS. BUT IN THE NEXT ROUND THERE APPEARS A SLIGHT GAP!
LOSING HIS BALANCE FOR THAT INSTANT - CLOUD'S DEFENSE IS BROKEN.
HE DOES NOT FALL TO THE GROUND. YET THE NEXT ATTACK IS ASTONISHINGLY SWIFT!
THWAM

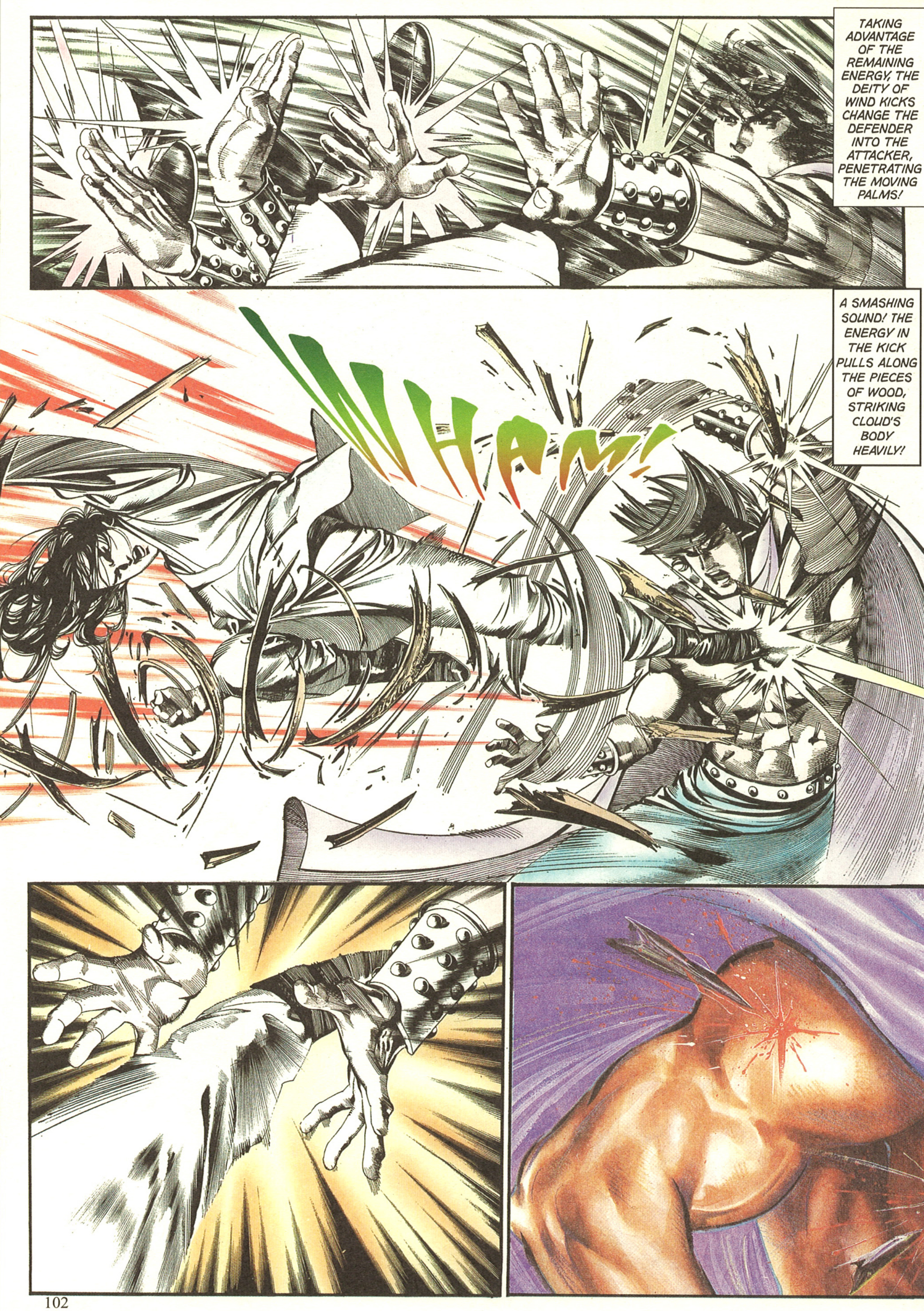

HIS HEART FILLED WITH AWE, CLOUD'S PALM STRIKES WITH SWIFT POWER!
HOWEVER, IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE, THE LEG'S IMAGE HAS ALREADY DISAPPEARED WITHOUT A TRACE!
AH! HIS SKILLS HAVE MADE SUCH PROGRESS... HE HAS ALREADY FAR SURPASSED MY ESTIMATION!
MASTER ONCE REVEALED THAT THE SPEED OF WIND'S DEITY OF WIND KICKS WAS WITHOUT PEER. HOWEVER, HIS ONLY WEAKNESS WAS WHEN HE FOUGHT IN CLOSE CONTACT, THEREFORE I MUST ATTACK THIS VULNERABILITY!

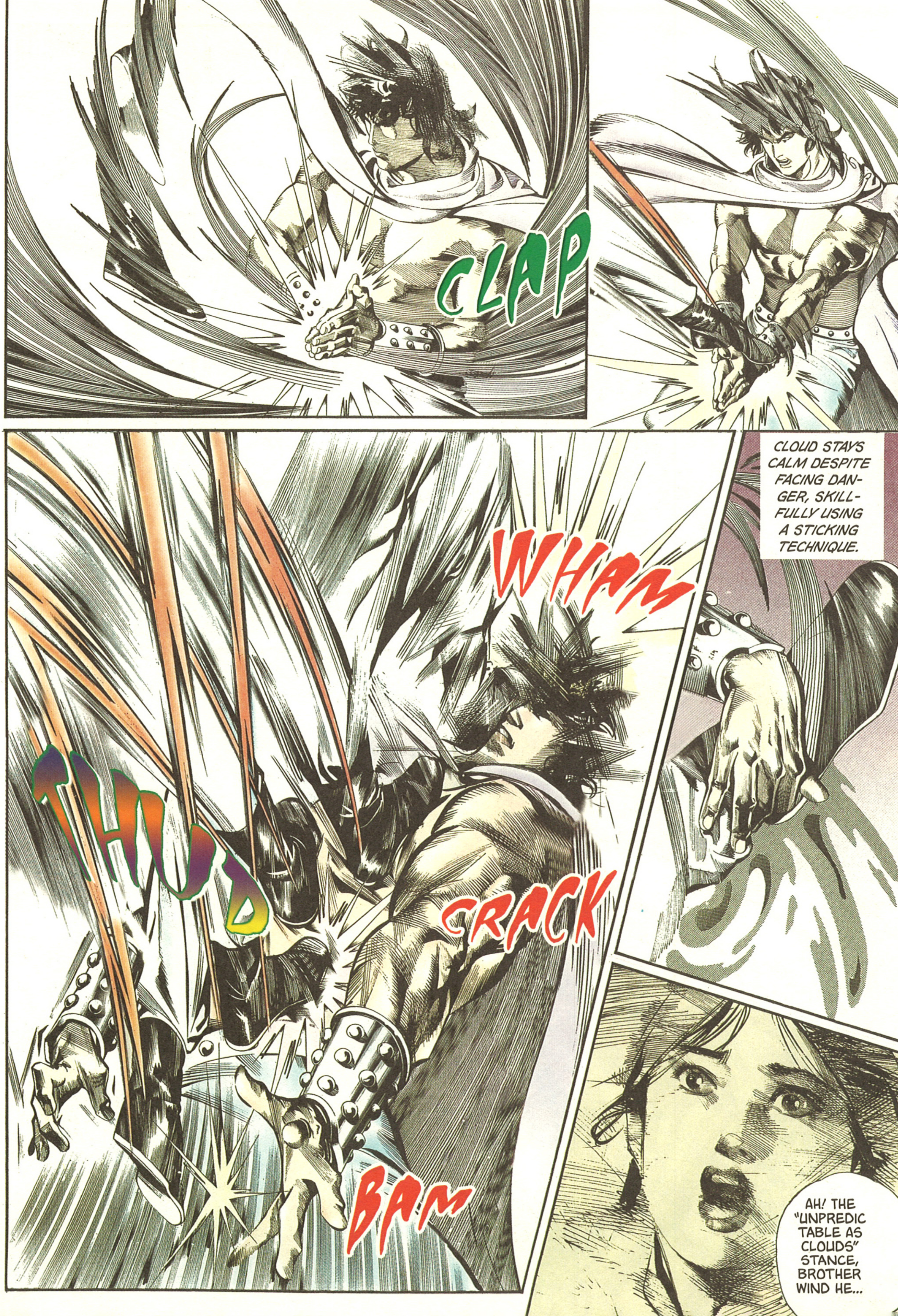

CLOUD, THERE WERE TWO PATHS THAT YOU WERE NOT INCLINED TO TAKE BEFORE. I JUST WANT YOU TO UNDERSTAND, THAT WHICHEVER PATH YOU CHOOSE IN THIS MOMENT... WILL BE AN ABSOLUTE ERROR!
AS WIND SPEAKS, THE LOOK OF DEATH APPEARS IN HIS EYES...
BASTARD! EVERYTHING THAT I DO IS FOR LOVE, IT CAN NOT BE DIVIDED INTO RIGHT AND WRONG!
HEARING THOSE PASSIONATE WORDS OF LOVE CAUSES WIND TO THINK OF HOW HIS DECEASED FATHER WENT INSANE BECAUSE OF HIS EMOTIONS...
YING!
YING!

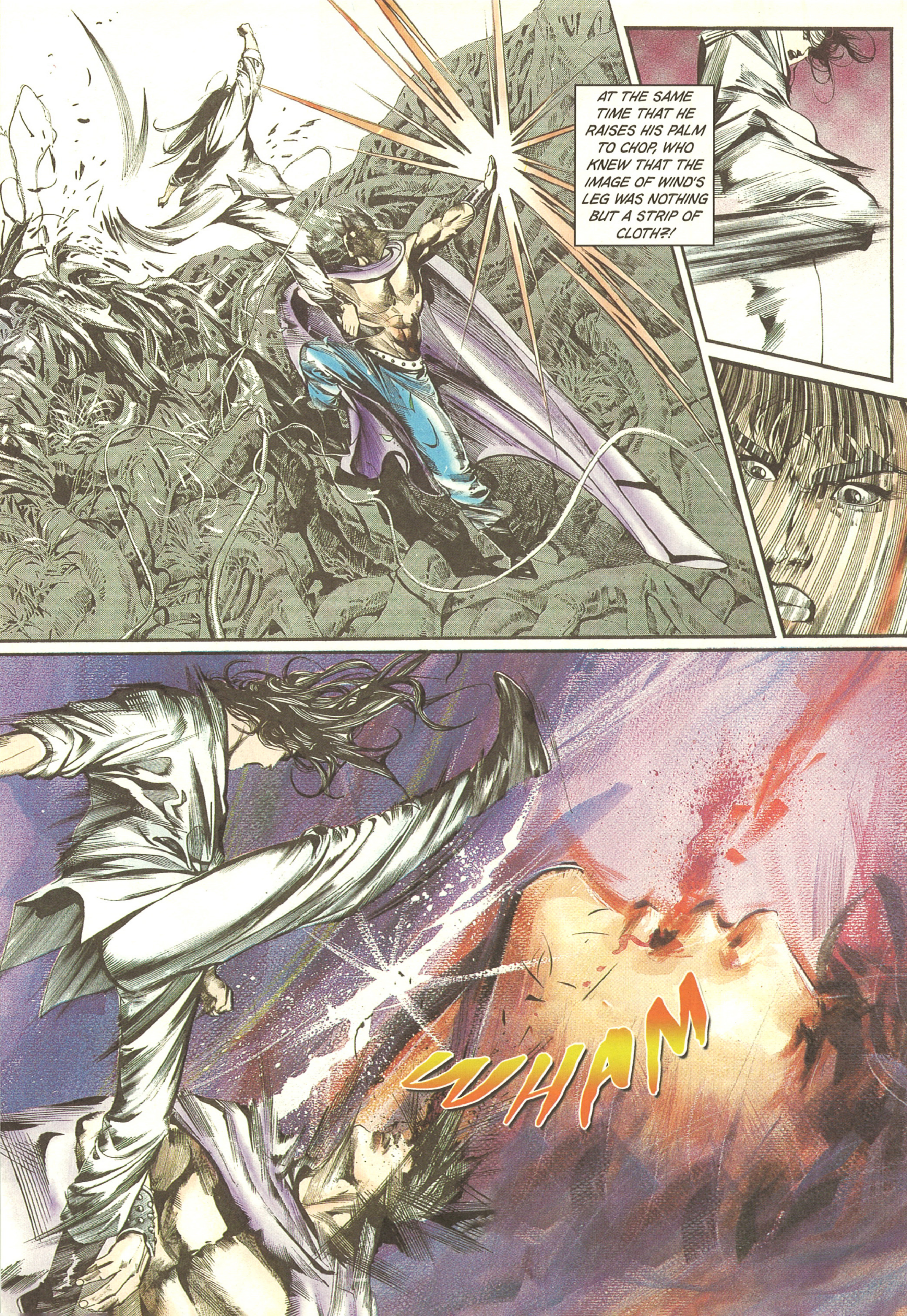

YING...
DEAR MOTHER... WHEN WILL YOU COME BACK TO OUR SIDE? IT IS SO PAINFUL FOR FATHER TO THINK OF YOU...
HMM! HEARTLESS IS NOT THE SAME AS THE PAIN OF TOO MANY EMOTIONS...
WHILE WIND IS LOST IN THIS TRAIN OF THOUGHT, HE SUDDENLY FEELS A VIOLENT WAVE POURING TOWARDS HIM, BRUSHING HIS FACE...

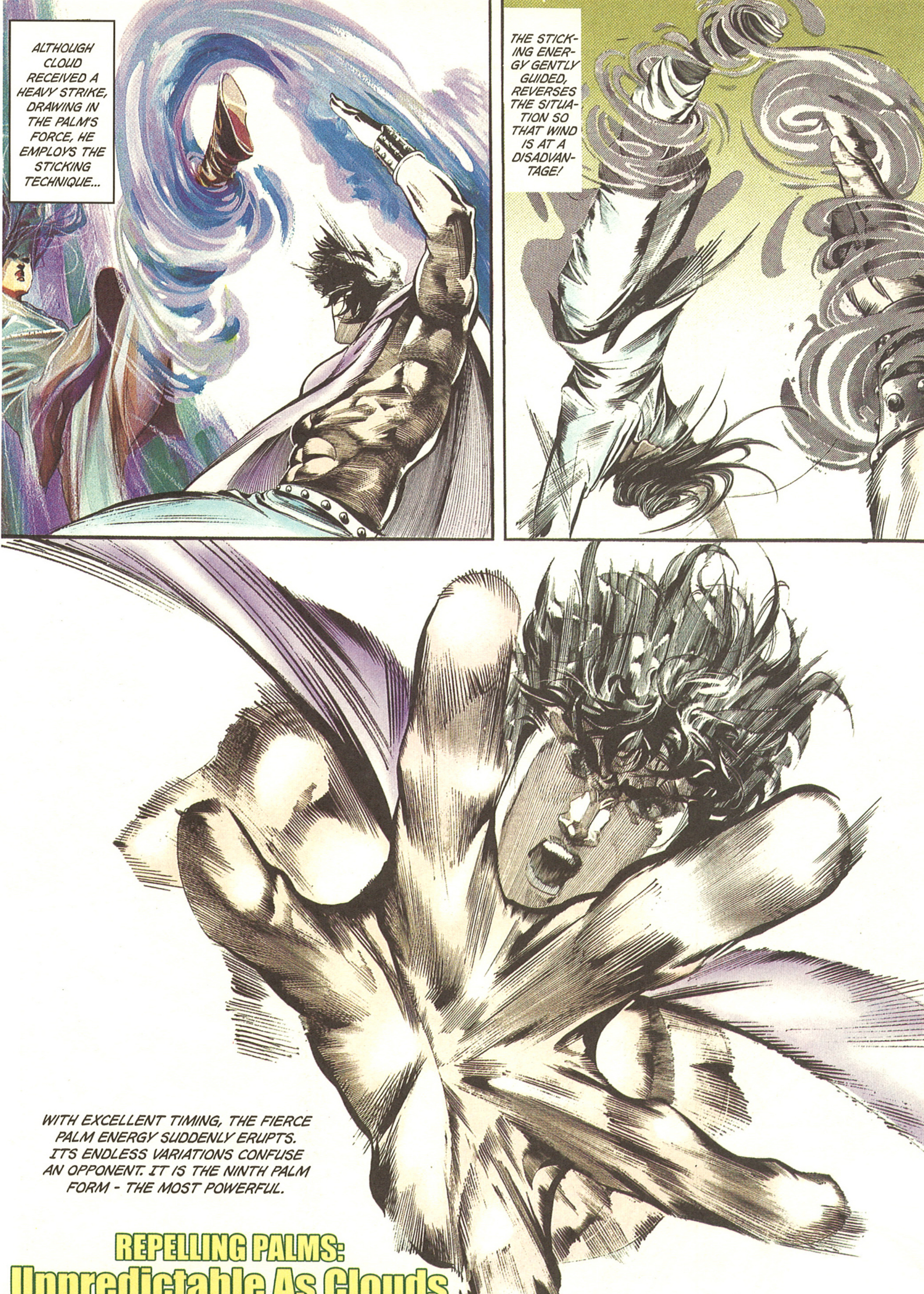

TAKING ADVANTAGE OF WIND'S DIVIDED ATTENTION, CLOUD SEIZES THE OPPORTUNITY AND DIRECTS HIS PALM'S ENERGY; STRIKING LIKE A SURGING TIDE PRESSING DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF WIND.
REPELLING PALMS: Eighth Form
Sea of Clouds
ALTHOUGH THE SITUATION IS DANGEROUS, WIND RETAINS HIS COMPOSURE. HE UNDERSTANDS THAT THIS PALM FORM IS EXTREMELY CUNNING AND CONTAINS MANY CHANGES TO DISTRACT AN ENEMY...
ICE HEART KNACK
IT IS VITAL TO BE CALM IN ORDER TO DEFEAT HIM!


WIND'S FOOT STEPS FORWARD, SECRETLY TRANSFERRING ENERGY...
FOOSH
AS HE RAISES HIS BODY, HE PULLS UP THE ANCIENT TREE TRUNK'S SPREADING ROOTS. NOW A FIERCE STRIKE MOVES FORWARD!
THE LEG'S ENERGY DRAWS THE WOODEN ROOTS FLYING UPWARDS, AS IF ERECTING A DURABLE SHIELD THAT COMPLETELY PROTECTS WIND. THIS SKILLFUL STRIKE CHANGES AN ATTACK INTO A DEFENSE - AWE-INSPIRING POWER THAT DOES NOT DIMINISH. IN THAT MOMENT, THE "SEA OF CLOUDS" IS COMPLETELY ROUTED!
SHOOM
DEITY OF WIND KICK: Fifth Form
Enforcing Thunder

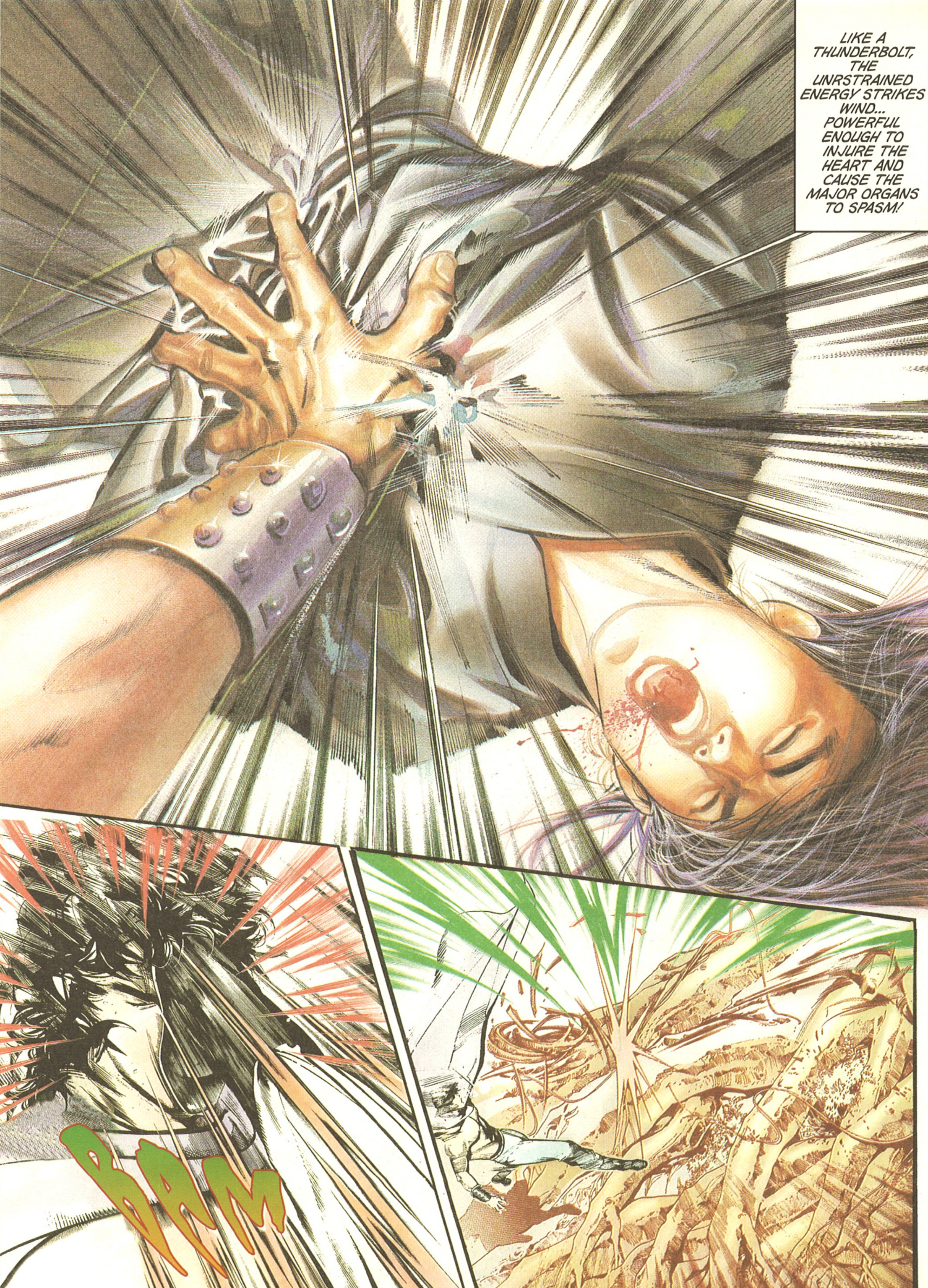

TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE REMAINING ENERGY, THE DEITY OF WIND KICKS CHANGE THE DEFENDER INTO THE ATTACKER, PENETRATING THE MOVING PALMS!
A SMASHING SOUND! THE ENERGY IN THE KICK PULLS ALONG THE PIECES OF WOOD, STRIKING CLOUD'S BODY HEAVILY!
WHAM!

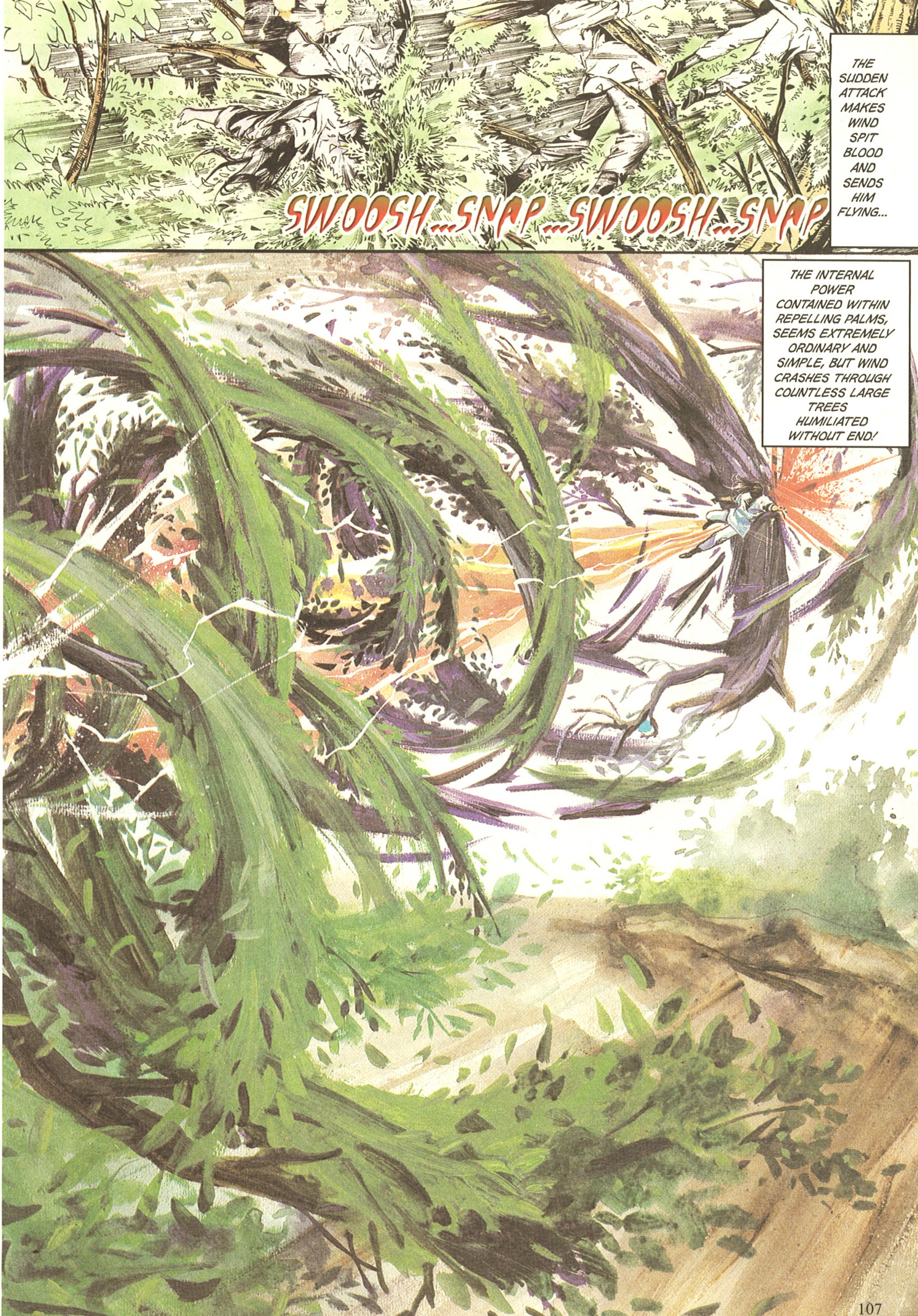

CLAP
CLOUD STAYS CALM DESPITE FACING DANGER, SKILLFULLY USING A STICKING TECHNIQUE.
WHAM
THUD
CRACK
BAM
AH! THE "UNPREDICTABLE AS CLOUDS" STANCE, BROTHER WIND HE...

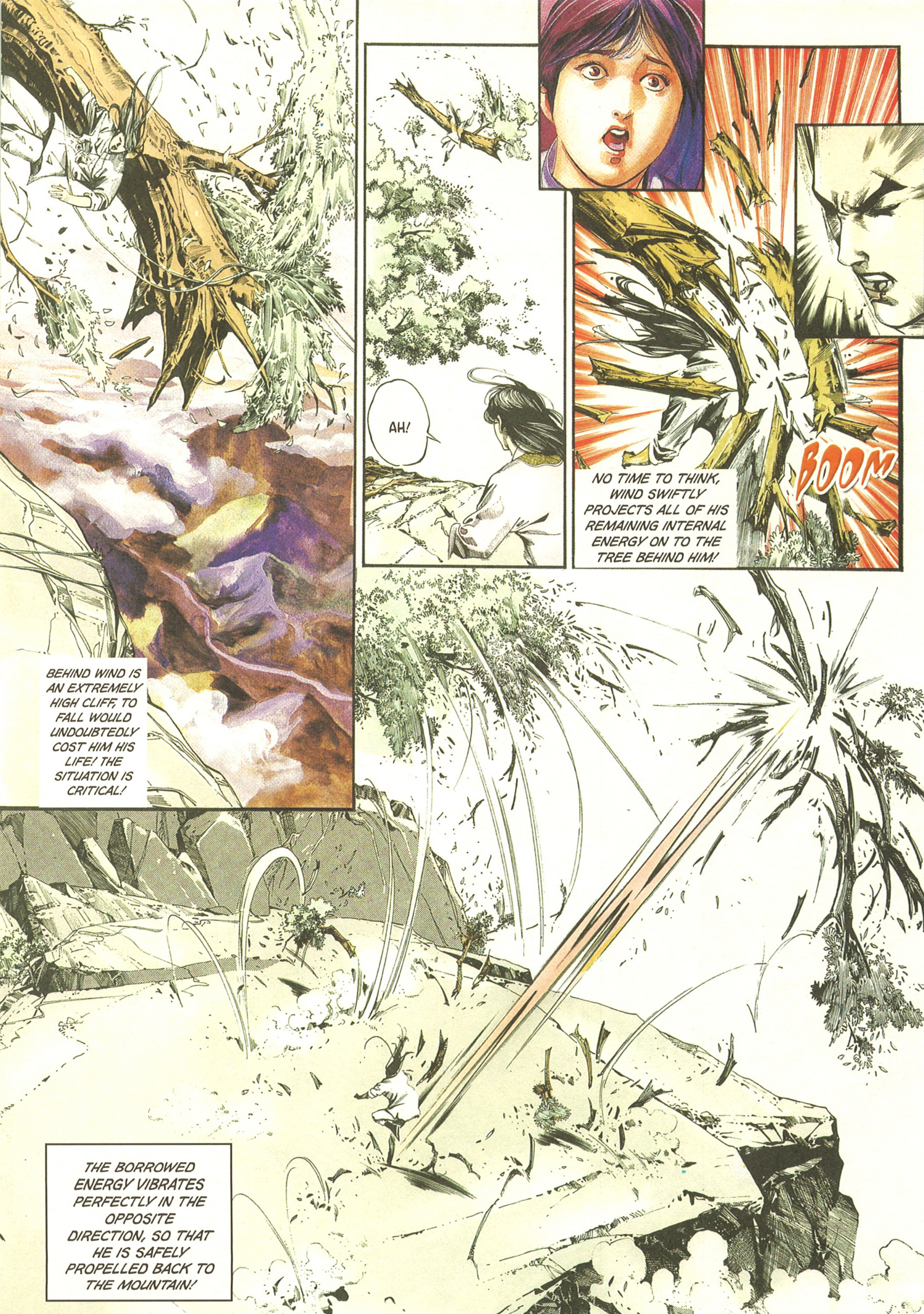

AT THE SAME TIME THAT HE RAISES HIS PALM TO CHOP, WHO KNEW THAT THE IMAGE OF WIND'S LEG WAS NOTHING BUT A STRIP OF CLOTH?!
WHAM

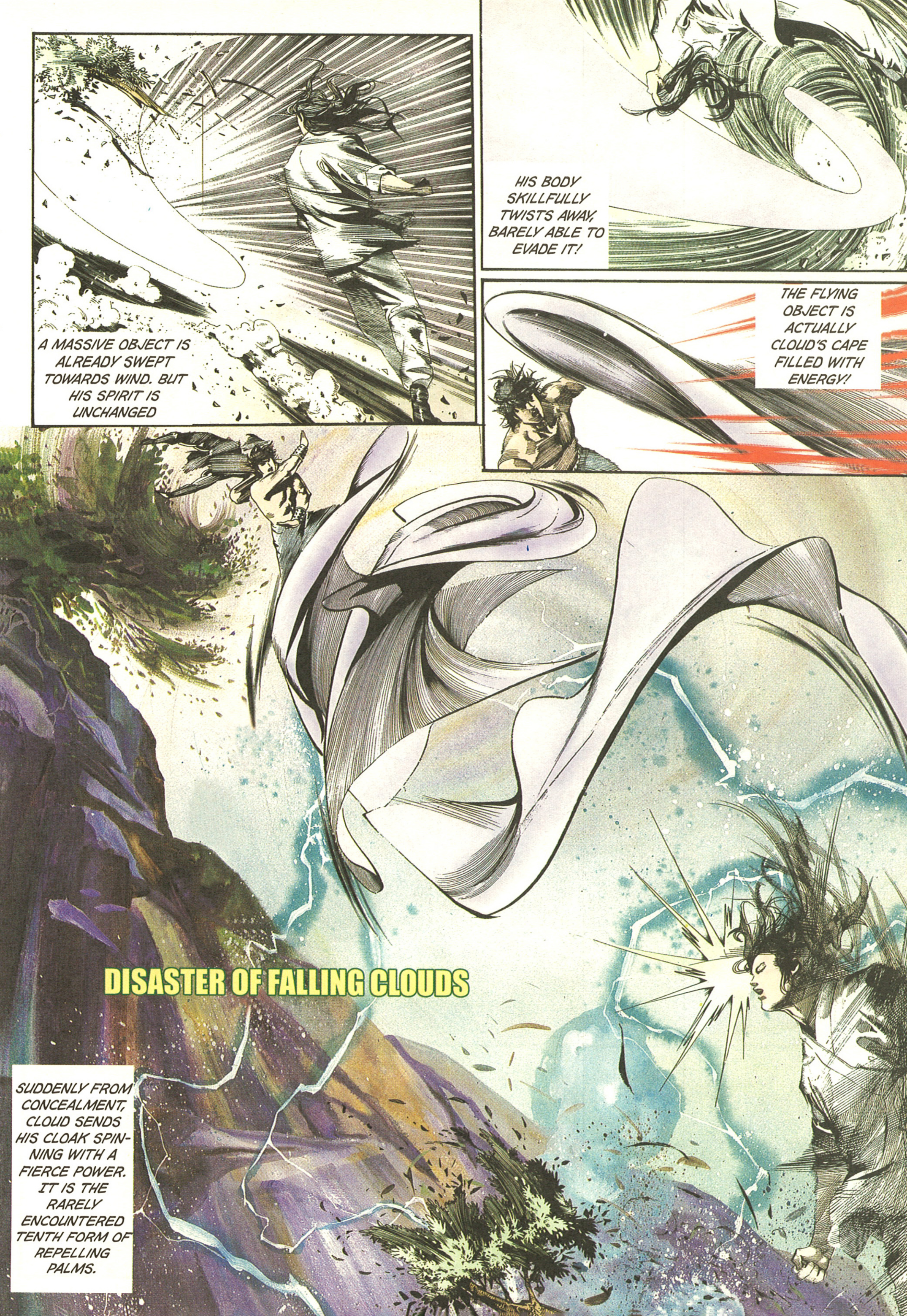

ALTHOUGH CLOUD RECEIVED A HEAVY STRIKE, DRAWING IN THE PALM'S FORCE, HE EMPLOYS THE STICKING TECHNIQUE...
THE STICKING ENERGY GENTLY GUIDED, REVERSES THE SITUATION SO THAT WIND IS AT A DISADVANTAGE!
WITH EXCELLENT TIMING, THE FIERCE PALM ENERGY SUDDENLY ERUPTS. ITS ENDLESS VARIATIONS CONFUSE AN OPPONENT. IT IS THE NINTH PALM FORM - THE MOST POWERFUL.

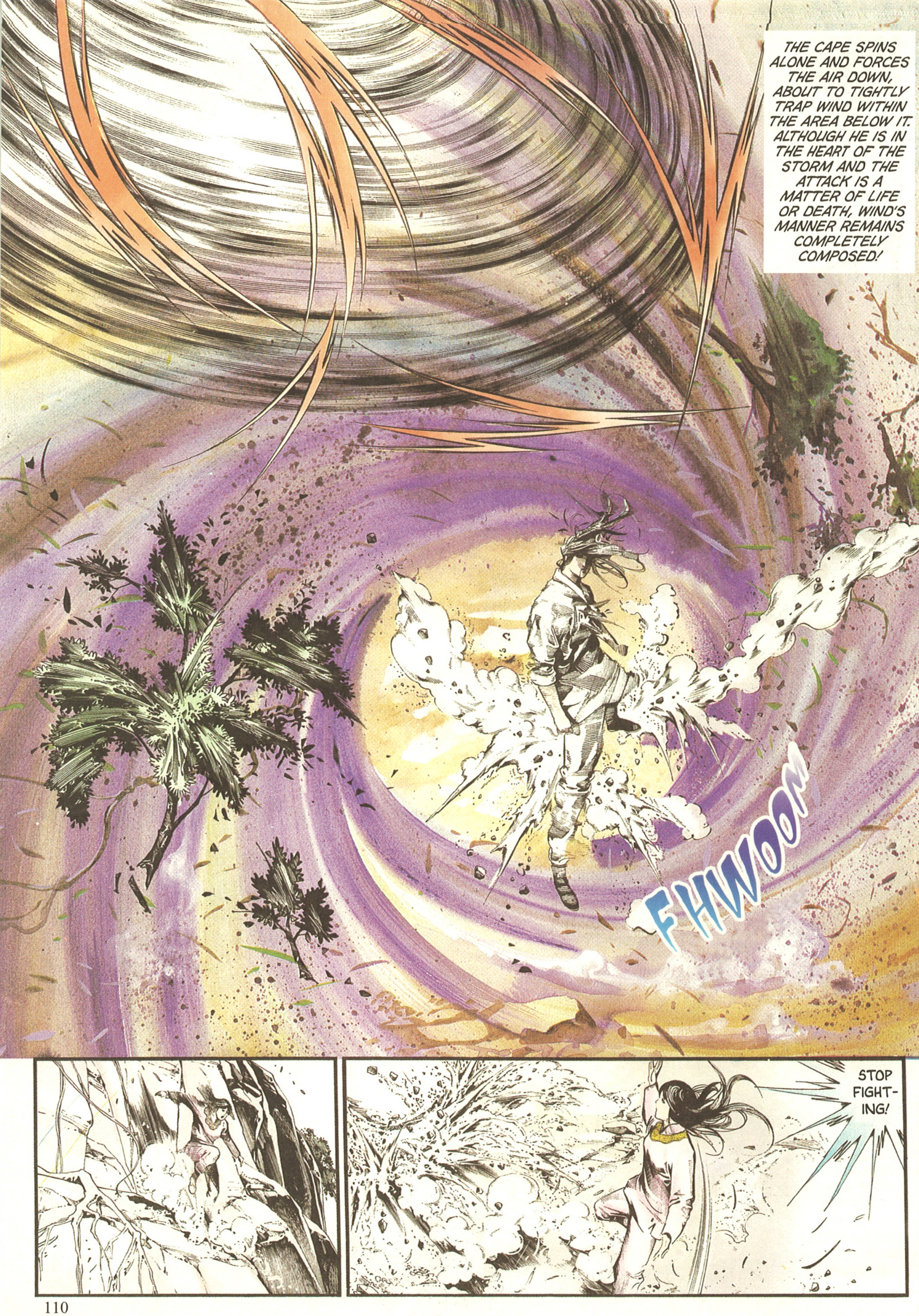
REPELLING PALMS: Unpredictable As Clouds

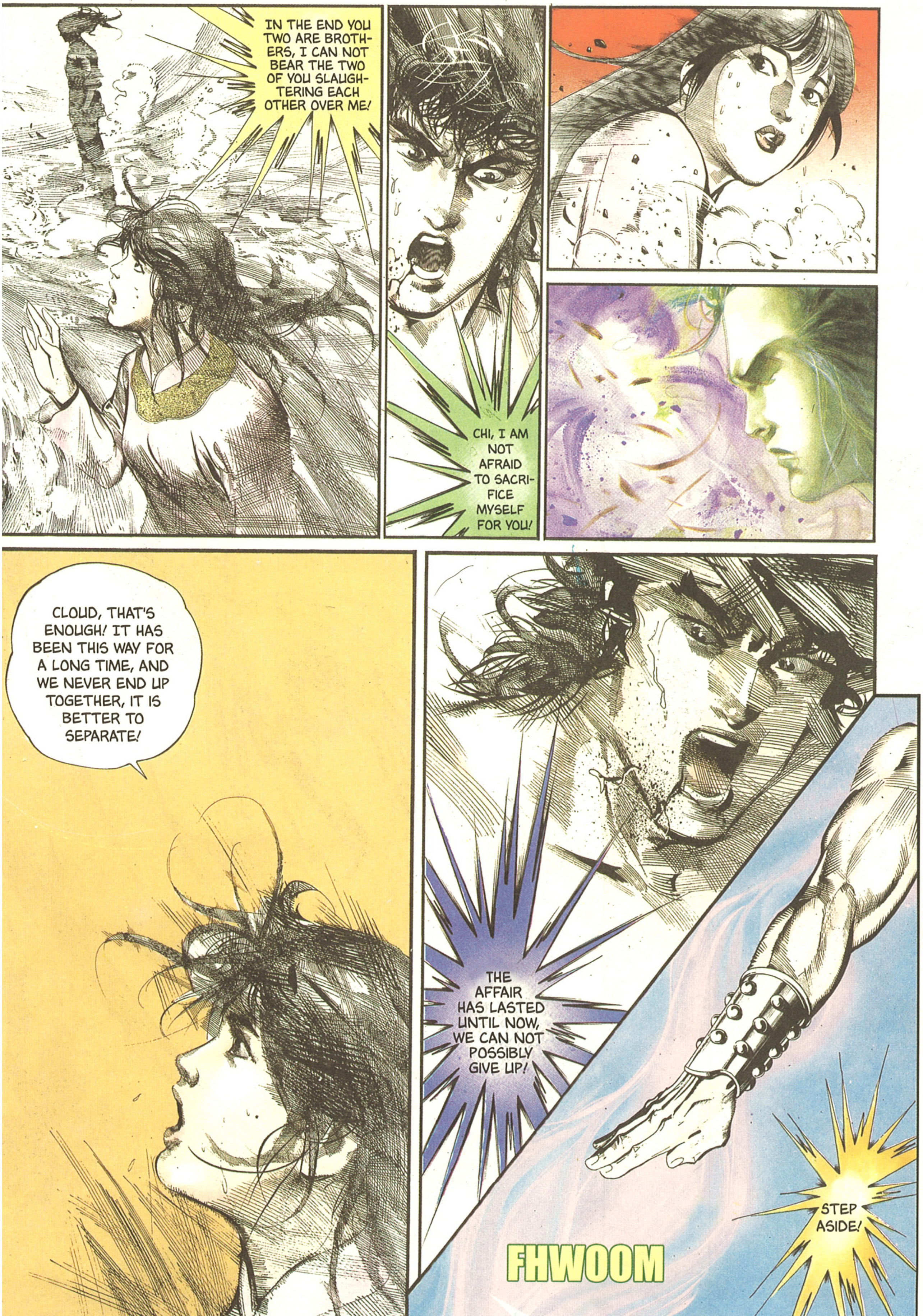

LIKE A THUNDERBOLT, THE UNRSTRAINED ENERGY STRIKES WIND... POWERFUL ENOUGH TO INJURE THE HEART AND CAUSE THE MAJOR ORGANS TO SPASM!
BAM

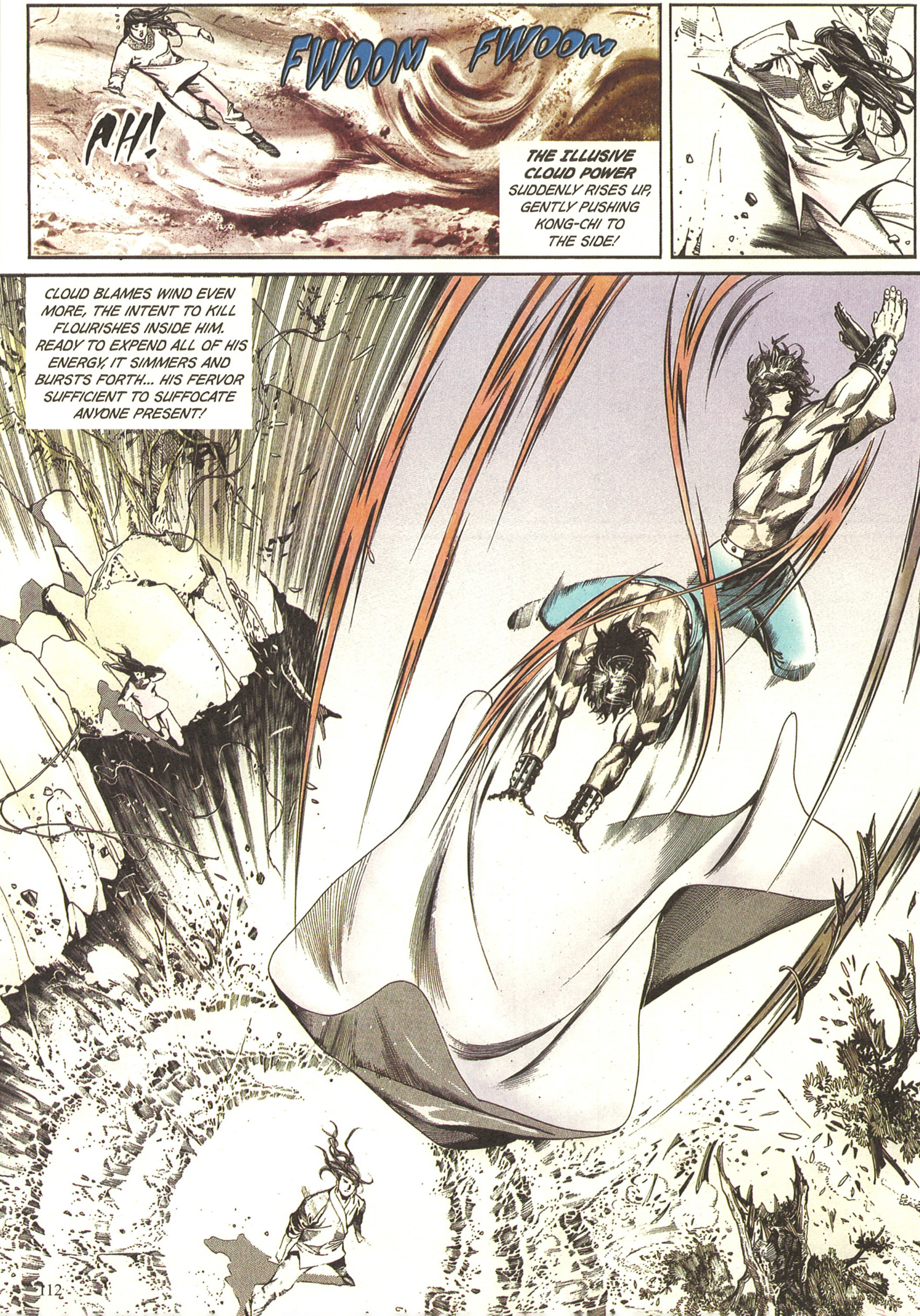

THE SUDDEN ATTACK MAKES WIND SPIT BLOOD AND SENDS HIM FLYING...
SWOOSH...SNAP...SWOOSH...SNAP
THE INTERNAL POWER CONTAINED WITHIN REPELLING PALMS, SEEMS EXTREMELY ORDINARY AND SIMPLE, BUT WIND CRASHES THROUGH COUNTLESS LARGE TREES HUMILIATED WITHOUT END!

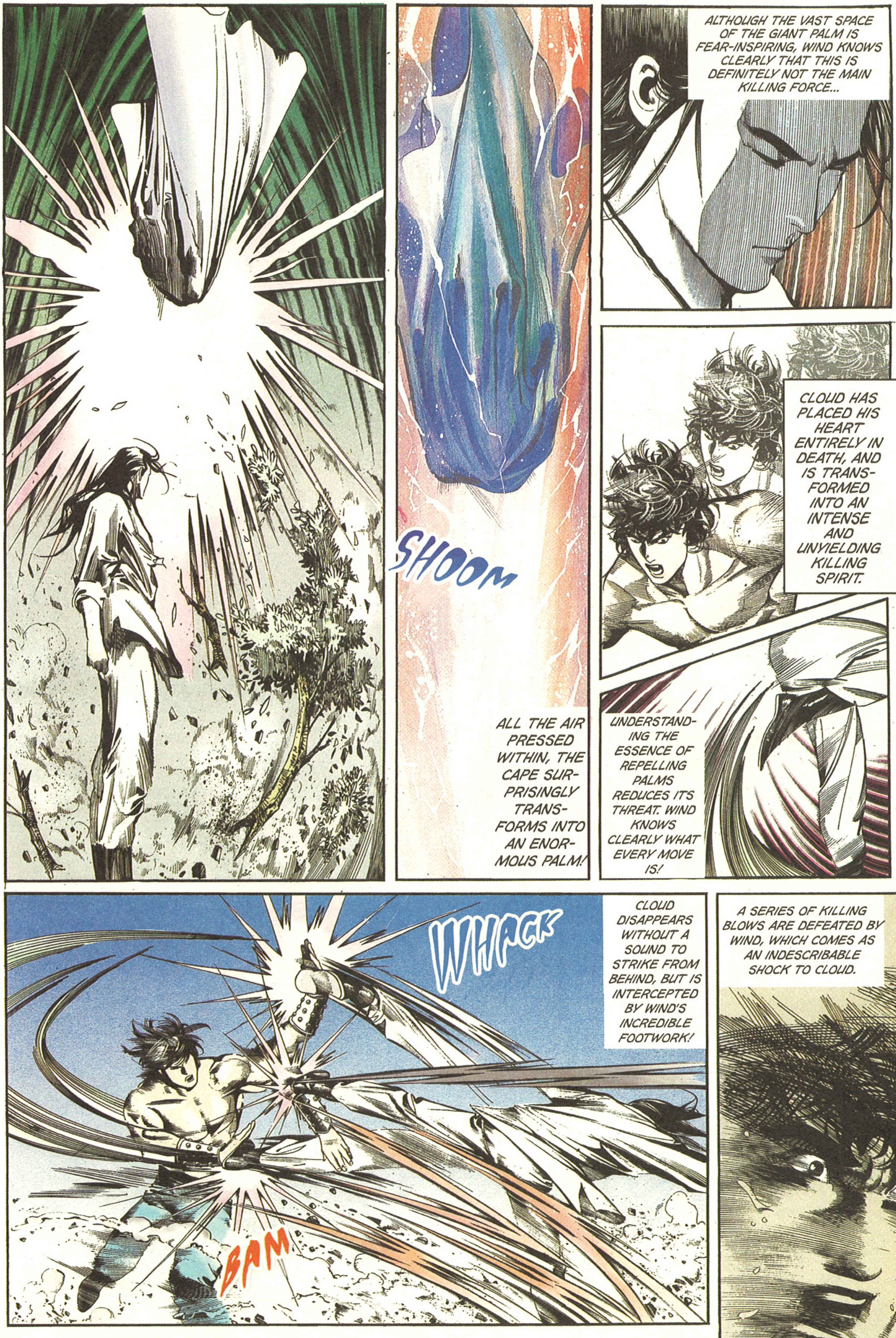

BEHIND WIND IS AN EXTREMELY HIGH CLIFF, TO FALL WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY COST HIM HIS LIFE! THE SITUATION IS CRITICAL!
AH!
NO TIME TO THINK, WIND SWIFTLY PROJECTS ALL OF HIS REMAINING INTERNAL ENERGY ON TO THE TREE BEHIND HIM!
BOOM
THE BORROWED ENERGY VIBRATES PERFECTLY IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION, SO THAT HE IS SAFELY PROPELLED BACK TO THE MOUNTAIN!

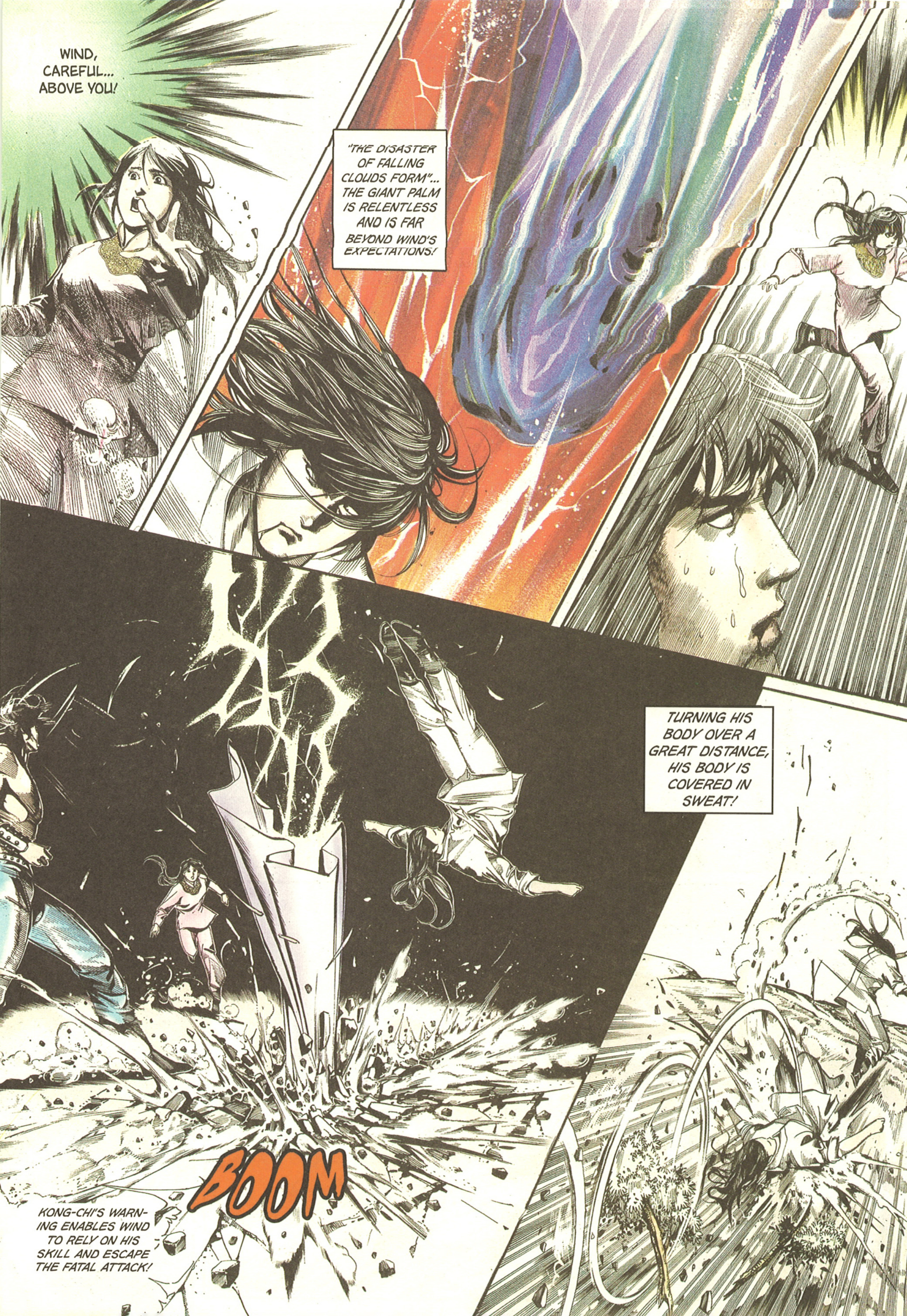

A MASSIVE OBJECT IS ALREADY SWEPT TOWARDS WIND. BUT HIS SPIRIT IS UNCHANGED
HIS BODY SKILLFULLY TWISTS AWAY, BARELY ABLE TO EVADE IT!
THE FLYING OBJECT IS ACTUALLY CLOUD'S CAPE FILLED WITH ENERGY!
DISASTER OF FALLING CLOUDS
SUDDENLY FROM CONCEALMENT, CLOUD SENDS HIS CLOAK SPINNING WITH A FIERCE POWER. IT IS THE RARELY ENCOUNTERED TENTH FORM OF REPELLING PALMS.

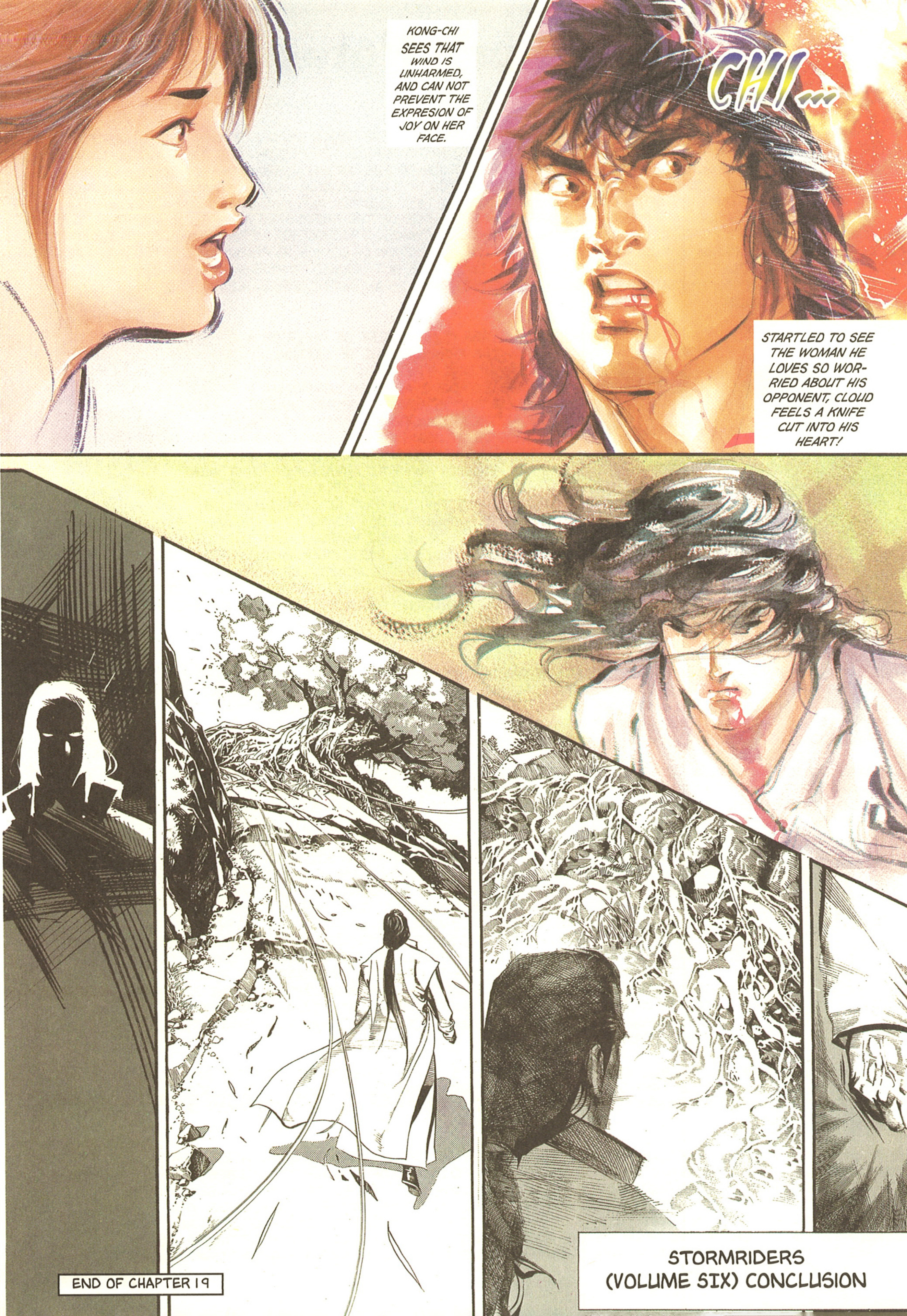

THE CAPE SPINS ALONE AND FORCES THE AIR DOWN, ABOUT TO TIGHTLY TRAP WIND WITHIN THE AREA BELOW IT. ALTHOUGH HE IS IN THE HEART OF THE STORM AND THE ATTACK IS A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH, WIND'S MANNER REMAINS COMPLETELY COMPOSED!
FHWOOM
STOP FIGHTING!


IN THE END YOU TWO ARE BROTHERS, I CAN NOT BEAR THE TWO OF YOU SLAUGHTERING EACH OTHER OVER ME!
CHI, I AM NOT AFRAID TO SACRIFICE MYSELF FOR YOU!
CLOUD, THAT'S ENOUGH! IT HAS BEEN THIS WAY FOR A LONG TIME, AND WE NEVER END UP TOGETHER, IT IS BETTER TO SEPARATE!
THE AFFAIR HAS LASTED UNTIL NOW, WE CAN NOT POSSIBLY GIVE UP!
STEP ASIDE!
FHWOOM


FWOOM FWOOM
AH!
THE ILLUSIVE CLOUD POWER SUDDENLY RISES UP, GENTLY PUSHING KONG-CHI TO THE SIDE!
CLOUD BLAMES WIND EVEN MORE, THE INTENT TO KILL FLOURISHES INSIDE HIM. READY TO EXPEND ALL OF HIS ENERGY, IT SIMMERS AND BURSTS FORTH... HIS FERVOR SUFFICIENT TO SUFFOCATE ANYONE PRESENT!

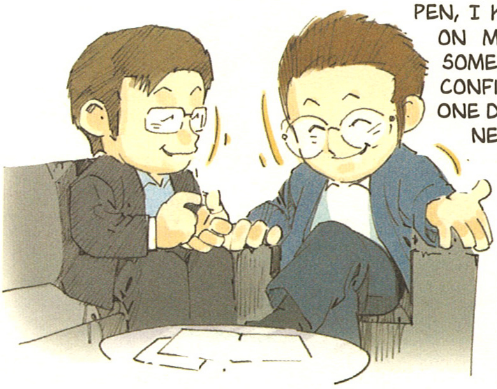

SHOOM
ALL THE AIR PRESSED WITHIN, THE CAPE SURPRISINGLY TRANSFORMS INTO AN ENORMOUS PALM!
ALTHOUGH THE VAST SPACE OF THE GIANT PALM IS FEAR-INSPIRING, WIND KNOWS CLEARLY THAT THIS IS DEFINITELY NOT THE MAIN KILLING FORCE...
CLOUD HAS PLACED HIS HEART ENTIRELY IN DEATH, AND IS TRANSFORMED INTO AN INTENSE AND UNYIELDING KILLING SPIRIT.
UNDERSTANDING THE ESSENCE OF REPELLING PALMS REDUCES ITS THREAT. WIND KNOWS CLEARLY WHAT EVERY MOVE IS!
WHACK
BAM
CLOUD DISAPPEARS WITHOUT A SOUND TO STRIKE FROM BEHIND, BUT IS INTERCEPTED BY WIND'S INCREDIBLE FOOTWORK!
A SERIES OF KILLING BLOWS ARE DEFEATED BY WIND, WHICH COMES AS AN INDESCRIBABLE SHOCK TO CLOUD.


WIND, CAREFUL... ABOVE YOU!
"THE DISASTER OF FALLING CLOUDS FORM"... THE GIANT PALM IS RELENTLESS AND IS FAR BEYOND WIND'S EXPECTATIONS!
BOOM
KONG-CHI'S WARNING ENABLES WIND TO RELY ON HIS SKILL AND ESCAPE THE FATAL ATTACK!
TURNING HIS BODY OVER A GREAT DISTANCE, HIS BODY IS COVERED IN SWEAT!

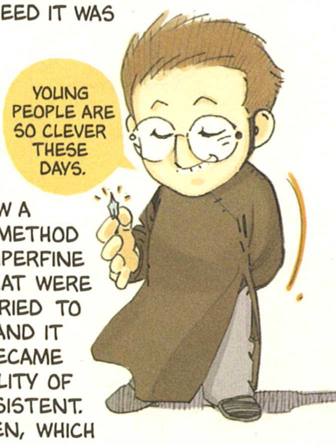

KONG-CHI SEES THAT WIND IS UNHARMED, AND CAN NOT PREVENT THE EXPRESION OF JOY ON HER FACE.
CHI...
STARTLED TO SEE THE WOMAN HE LOVES SO WORRIED ABOUT HIS OPPONENT, CLOUD FEELS A KNIFE CUT INTO HIS HEART!
END OF CHAPTER 19
STORMRIDERS (VOLUME SIX) CONCLUSION

Author's Notes

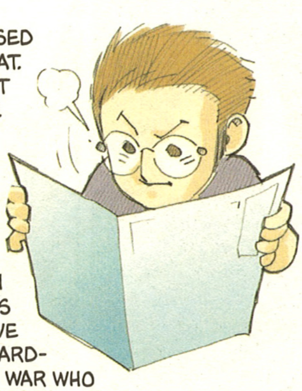
I HAVE RECENTLY ACCEPTED AN INVITATION FOR AN INTERVIEW FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AT AN INSTITUTION. DR. MINGHAI LI CONDUCTED THE INTERVIEW, AND DURING WHICH I HAD A CHANCE TO SIT DOWN AND TALK TO HIM. IT WAS THEN WHEN I REALIZED HE WAS ONCE A COLLEAGUE WHEN I FIRST JOINED THE "GREEN NEWSPAPER." OF COURSE WE EXCHANGED IDEAS ON THE PRODUCTION OF COMICS, HOW IT WAS INTEGRATED INTO EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS AND MADE AVAILABLE IN CDS. WE SPENT THE BETTER PART OF OUR TIME REMEMBERING THE PAST AND THE FUN MOMENTS WHEN WE WERE TRAINEES. I LEARNED ABOUT THE OLD DAYS FROM THE STORIES OF DR. LI, SOME OF THE ANECDOTES WERE EVEN UNKNOWN TO ME. WE ALSO DISCUSSED ABOUT THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT TRENDS OF COMICS. I WAS RATHER IMPRESSED BY DR. LI'S BROAD KNOWLEDGE OF ARTS. ALTHOUGH HE WAS NO LONGER ACTIVE IN THE PRODUCTION OF COMICS, HE REMAINED UPDATED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT IN THIS INDUSTRY. THE INTERVIEW LASTED FOR TWO HOURS, BUT SEEMED TO PASS BY IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE. I SUPPOSE INSTEAD OF REFERRING TO THE GATHERING AS AN "INTERVIEW," INDEED IT WAS MORE LIKE A REUNION.



NO MATTER WHETHER IT IS A SHEET OF PAPER OR A PEN, I KNOW THE ARRANGEMENT OF STATIONERY ON MY DESK LIKE THE BACK OF MY HAND. SOMETIMES I THINK I AM OVER CONFIDANT, A CONFIDENCE THAT IS ALMOST BEYOND REASON. ONE DAY, AT THE PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT, I SAW A NEW ASSISTANT USING HIS SELF-DEVELOPED METHOD TO REPAIR FOUNTAIN PENS. HE USED SUPERFINE WET SANDING PAPER TO ABRADE NIBS THAT WERE WORN-OUT, CROOKED, OR BROKEN. I TRIED TO WRITE WITH THE PEN THAT HE REPAIRED AND IT WORKED WONDERFULLY. SOMEHOW I BECAME NOSTALGIC. IN RECENT YEARS, THE QUALITY OF FOUNTAIN PENS IS EXTREMELY INCONSISTENT. NEEDLESS TO SAY, THE QUALITY OF A PEN, WHICH BOTHERED ME ENDLESSLY, WOULD AFFECT THE SMOOTHNESS OF THE WRITING. WHILE ADMIRING THE YOUNG MAN'S CLEVERNESS, I FELT VERY PLEASED THAT MY IRRITATION HAD SUBSIDED.


YOUNG PEOPLE ARE SO CLEVER THESE DAYS.

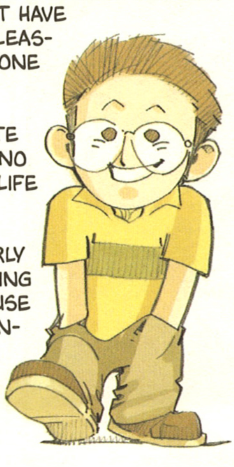
I RECENTLY SAW A WHOLE SERIES OF REPORTS IN THE NEWSPAPERS ABOUT PEOPLE WHO'D GASSED THEMSELVES TO DEATH. IT REALLY MAKES ME FEEL BAD WHEN I HEAR ABOUT STUFF LIKE THAT. SUICIDE, AFTER ALL, IS ALL ABOUT ESCAPING RESPONSIBILITY - IT'S A COWARDLY ACT. BUT WHAT MAKES IT ALL THE MORE UNBEARABLE IS THAT SOME OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO COMMITTED SUICIDE EVEN TOOK THEIR CHILDREN WITH THEM, IN THE NAME OF 'LOVE'!



LATELY, HONG KONG'S ECONOMY HAS BEEN IN A RECESSION THAT'S AFFECTED EVERY INDUSTRY AND PROFESSION. WHAT WITH THE ECONOMIC BURDEN STEADILY INCREASING AND PRESSURE IN THE FAMILY AND SOCIETY IN GENERAL RISING RELENTLESSLY, IT'S NOT SURPRISING THAT SOME PEOPLE WHO FIND THEMSELVES CAUGHT BETWEEN THE TWO WOULD LOOK TO DEATH AS A WAY OUT. I PERSONALLY THINK THAT FINANCIAL PROBLEMS ARE NOT A GOOD ENOUGH REASON TO COMMIT SUICIDE. AT THE VERY LEAST, WE'VE GOT HONG KONG'S SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM AS A SAFETY NET, SO NOBODY'S GOING TO STARVE TO DEATH. IF WE COMPARE OUR SITUATION TO THE RECENT EVENTS REGARDING THE ISRAELI-PALESTINE CONFLICT, OR THAT OF REFUGEES FLEEING WAR WHO ARE STRUGGLING TO JUST SURVIVE, MAYBE OUR SITUATION ISN'T SO BAD AFTER ALL. AND THROUGHOUT THE AGES, EVEN WITH PEOPLE WHO THINK THEY'VE NO ALTERNATIVE, COMMITTING SUICIDE STILL TAKES A LOT OF COURAGE. BUT IF THEY'VE GOT THE COURAGE TO COMMIT SUICIDE THEN SHOULDN'T THEY ALSO HAVE THE COURAGE TO CARRY ON LIVING AND FACE THEIR DIFFICULTIES? BUT PERHAPS SUICIDE IS ALSO ABOUT A LACK OF SELF-RESPECT. MAYBE PEOPLE JUST HAVE TO FACE UP TO THEMSELVES AND ACCEPT THINGS AS THEY ARE, HOWEVER UNPLEASANT THAT MAY BE. AFTER ALL, NOTHING'S SO BAD THAT IT CAN'T BE DEALT WITH ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.

LIFE'S ALL ABOUT UPS AND DOWNS, ADVANCES AND RETREATS. IT'S BECAUSE PEOPLE HAVE THE INNATE ABILITY TO ENDURE HARDSHIP THAT LIFE IS SO BEAUTIFUL AFTER THE STORM CLOUDS HAVE PASSED. NO MATTER HOW DIFFICULT THINGS GET, THERE'S NO NEED TO LEAVE THE STAGE, BECAUSE THE DRAMA OF LIFE IS NEVER-ENDING.

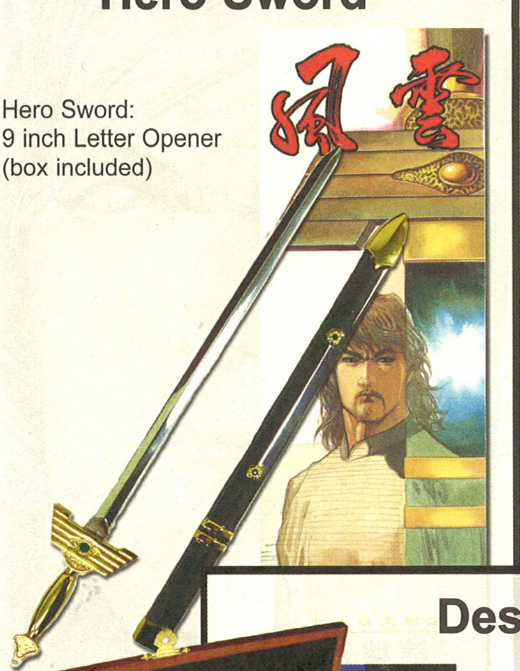
A WEEK HAS PASSED AND I'VE NOW MANAGED TO KEEP UP MY NEW DAILY RHYTHM OF GOING TO BED EARLY AND WAKING UP EARLY. IT'S SOMETHING I'D BEEN PLANNING TO START FOR SO LONG. IT'S THE BEST THING THAT'S HAPPENED TO ME THIS WEEK AND I CAN'T HELP FEELING A LITTLE PLEASED WITH MYSELF. BECAUSE OF MY EARLY RISE-AND-SHINE ROUTINE I'VE MANAGED TO GET MY WORKFLOW PRETTY WELL UNDER CONTROL. BECAUSE OF THIS, I'VE BEEN ABLE TO DRAW SEVEN OR EIGHT PAGES MORE EACH DAY! IF I CAN KEEP THIS UP I'LL BE ABLE TO ORGANIZE THE TEDIOUS PART OF MY WORK BETTER AND GET MORE TIME FOR MYSELF. IF I CAN REALLY MAKE IT HAPPEN THEN I'LL AT LAST BE ABLE TO SEE THE LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL!

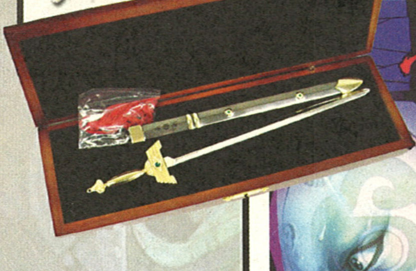


STORM RIDERS 風雲 Merchandise

Hero Sword

Hero Sword:
9 inch Letter Opener
(box included)





Snowy Saber

Snowy Saber:
9 inch Letter Opener
(box included)

Destiny

Destiny:
9 inch Letter Opener
(box included)

Mini Snowy Saber:
4 inch Letter Opener

風雲
馬榮成作品
火麟劍
馬榮成作品
風雲

Flame Kylin Sword:
5.5 inch Letter Opener

Storm Riders DVD

Now On Sale For $17

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Bu Jingyun (Cloud)
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風雲
雄霸天下
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THE STORM RIDERS
出品人 鄒文懷 朱家欣　原著 馬榮成　監製／編劇 文雋　導演 劉偉強
produced by RAYMOND CHOW / JOHN CHU　adaptation MA WING SHING
producer & written by MANFRED WONG　directed by ANDREW LAU
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AUGUST 2002

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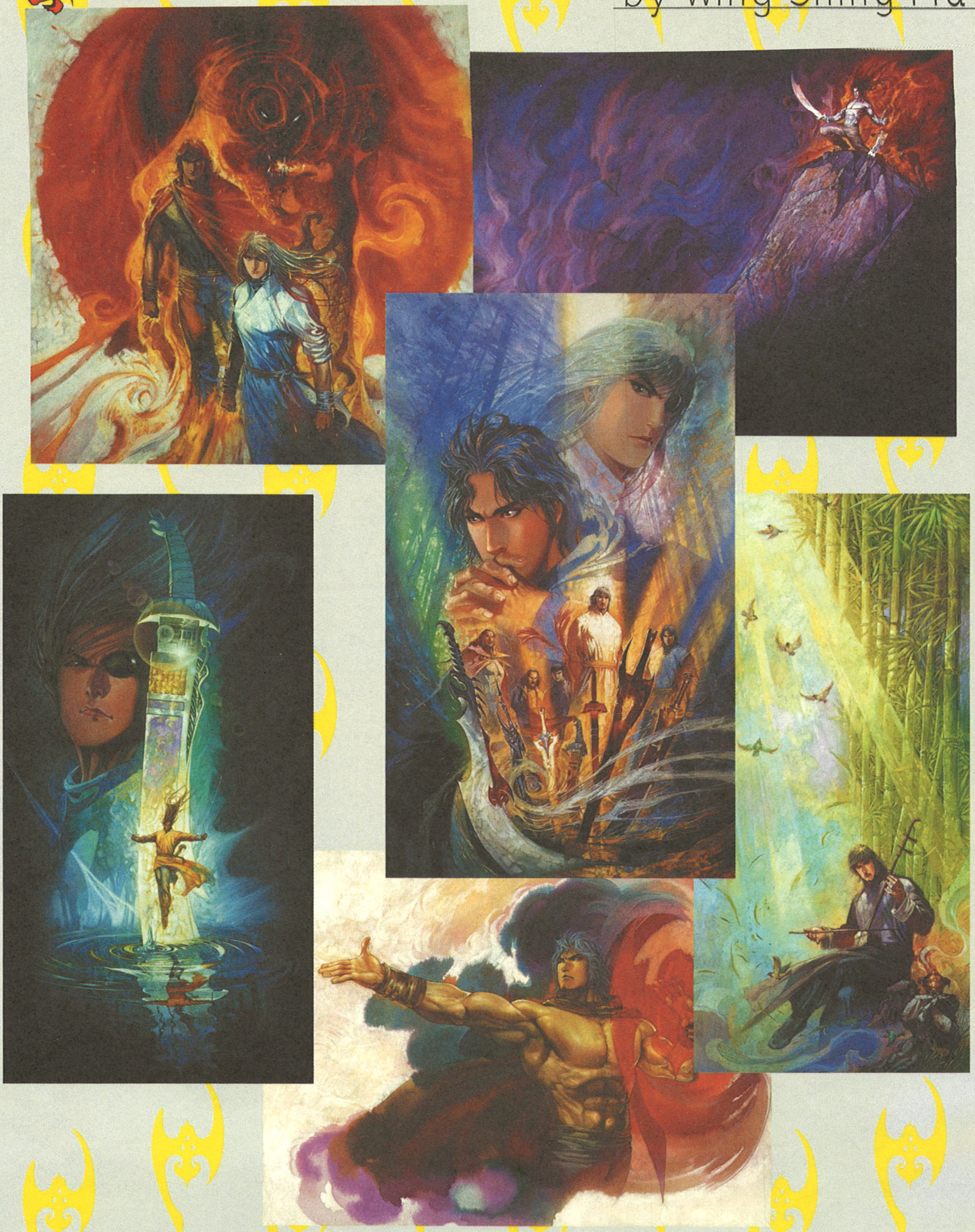
風雲

STORM RIDERS

by Wing Shing Ma



STORM RIDERS 風雲

Wind goes to Lin-Yin Cave to visit the scene of his father's death. To his surprise, Cloud is being held captive within the cave. Cloud reveals that the killer of Wind's father was the Flame Kylin Beast. After Wind frees him, Cloud is unable to repress his urges and continues his affair with Kong-Chi (Frost's wife). When Wind discovers their tryst, he offers this ultimatum: Abandon Kong-Chi or abandon the World Fighting Association. Unable to choose between the two, Cloud decides his only alternative is to kill Wind. Wind and Cloud launch into battle, leaving Kong-Chi caught in the middle.

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